

September 2005

# Environmental Technology Verification Report

HORIBA INSTRUMENTS, INC.  
APSA-360 AMBIENT  
HYDROGEN SULFIDE ANALYZER

Prepared by  
Battelle



Under a cooperative agreement with



ETV ✓ ETV ✓ ETV ✓

# **Environmental Technology Verification Report**

ETV Advanced Monitoring Systems Center

## **HORIBA INSTRUMENTS, INC. APSA-360 AMBIENT HYDROGEN SULFIDE ANALYZER**

by  
Ann Louise Sumner  
Amy Dindal  
Zachary Willenberg  
Karen Riggs  
Battelle  
Columbus, Ohio

Richard Pfeiffer  
Jerry Hatfield  
United States Department of Agriculture  
National Soil Tilth Laboratory  
Ames, Iowa

and

Eric Winegar  
Applied Measurement Science  
Fair Oaks, California

## **Notice**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), through its Office of Research and Development, has financially supported and collaborated in the extramural program described here. This document has been peer reviewed by the Agency. Mention of trade names or commercial products does not constitute endorsement or recommendation by the EPA for use.

## Foreword

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is charged by Congress with protecting the nation's air, water, and land resources. Under a mandate of national environmental laws, the Agency strives to formulate and implement actions leading to a compatible balance between human activities and the ability of natural systems to support and nurture life. To meet this mandate, the EPA's Office of Research and Development provides data and science support that can be used to solve environmental problems and to build the scientific knowledge base needed to manage our ecological resources wisely, to understand how pollutants affect our health, and to prevent or reduce environmental risks.

The Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program has been established by the EPA to verify the performance characteristics of innovative environmental technology across all media and to report this objective information to permittees, buyers, and users of the technology, thus substantially accelerating the entrance of new environmental technologies into the marketplace. Verification organizations oversee and report verification activities based on testing and quality assurance protocols developed with input from major stakeholders and customer groups associated with the technology area. ETV consists of six verification centers. Information about each of these centers can be found on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/etv/>.

Effective verifications of monitoring technologies are needed to assess environmental quality and to supply cost and performance data to select the most appropriate technology for that assessment. Under a cooperative agreement, Battelle has received EPA funding to plan, coordinate, and conduct such verification tests for "Advanced Monitoring Systems for Air, Water, and Soil" and report the results to the community at large. Information concerning this specific environmental technology area can be found on the Internet at <http://www.epa.gov/etv/centers/center1.html>.

## **Acknowledgments**

The authors wish to acknowledge the support of all those who helped plan and conduct the verification test, analyze the data, and prepare this report. We would like to thank Dr. Raul Dominguez, Jr., South Coast Air Quality Management District; Dr. D. Bruce Harris, EPA; and Dr. William Ollison, American Petroleum Institute, for their technical review of the test/quality assurance plan and for their careful review of this verification report. We also thank Dr. Gary Norris, EPA, for his review of the test/quality assurance plan and Dr. Alan Vette, EPA, for review of this report. We also would like to thank Mr. Kenwood Scoggin and Dr. Steven Trabue, U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA), for their assistance in performing reference sample analysis, and Mr. Timothy Hart, USDA, for providing meteorological data and programming the data logger used to collect the APSA-360 data. We thank the American Petroleum Institute for providing funding to Applied Measurement Science for their participation in this verification test and the USDA Agricultural Research Service for providing logistical support.

# Contents

Page

Notice .....	ii
Foreword .....	iii
Acknowledgments .....	iv
List of Abbreviations .....	viii
1 Background .....	1
2 Technology Description .....	2
3 Test Design and Procedures .....	4
3.1 Introduction .....	4
3.2 Site Description .....	4
3.3 Test Design .....	5
3.3.1 Accuracy, Bias, Precision, and Linearity .....	8
3.3.2 Span and Zero Drift .....	8
3.3.3 Response Time .....	9
3.3.4 Interference Effects .....	9
3.3.5 Comparability .....	9
3.3.6 Data Completeness .....	12
3.3.7 Operational Factors .....	12
4 Quality Assurance/Quality Control .....	13
4.1 Reference Method Quality Control Results .....	13
4.1.1 Time-Integrated Reference Method Quality Control Results .....	13
4.1.2 <i>In Situ</i> Reference Method Quality Control Results .....	14
4.2 Audits .....	15
4.2.1 Performance Evaluation Audits .....	15
4.2.2 Technical Systems Audits .....	15
4.2.3 Audit of Data Quality .....	16
4.3 Quality Assurance/Quality Control Reporting .....	16
4.4 Data Review .....	16
5 Statistical Methods and Reported Parameters .....	18
5.1 Accuracy .....	18
5.2 Bias .....	18
5.3 Precision .....	18
5.4 Linearity .....	19
5.5 Span and Zero Drift .....	19
5.6 Response Time .....	19
5.7 Interference Effects .....	20

5.8	Comparability	20
5.9	Data Completeness	21
6	Test Results	22
6.1	Accuracy	24
6.2	Bias	27
6.3	Precision	27
6.4	Linearity	27
6.5	Span and Zero Drift	29
6.6	Response Time	30
6.7	Interference Effects	33
6.8	Comparability	33
6.8.1	Time-Integrated Comparability	34
6.8.2	<i>In Situ</i> Comparability	34
6.9	Data Completeness	35
6.10	Operational Factors	35
7	Performance Summary	38
8	References	40
Appendix A. APSA-360 Checklist		A-1
Appendix B. APSA-360 and Time-Integrated Reference Method Data		B-1
Appendix C. APSA-360 and <i>In Situ</i> Comparability Data		C-1

## Figures

Figure 2-1.	Horiba Instruments, Inc., APSA-360 Ambient Hydrogen Sulfide Analyzer	2
Figure 3-1.	Test Site	5
Figure 3-2.	Swine Barn Interior	5
Figure 3-3.	Test Site Lagoons	6
Figure 3-4.	Teflon Manifold	6
Figure 6-1.	Meteorological Conditions and APSA-360 Ambient H <sub>2</sub> S Measurements	23
Figure 6-2.	Hourly Averaged APSA-360 H <sub>2</sub> S Measurements Plotted as a Function of Wind Direction	24
Figure 6-3.	APSA-360 Accuracy Results	25
Figure 6-4.	APSA-360 Linearity Results	28

Figure 6-5. APSA-360 Baseline Response Results .....	29
Figure 6-6. Span and Zero Drift Control Chart .....	32
Figure 6-7. Comparison of Time-Integrated Reference Measurements with Averages from the APSA-360 .....	35
Figure 6-8. Comparison of Selected <i>In Situ</i> Reference Measurements with APSA-360 Averages and Measurement Data .....	36
Figure 6-9. Scatter Plot of APSA-360 Results versus <i>In Situ</i> Reference Measurements .....	36

## Tables

Table 3-1. Test Activities .....	7
Table 3-2. H <sub>2</sub> S Concentrations and Order for Multipoint Challenges .....	8
Table 3-3. Interferants and Approximate Concentrations for Interference Checks .....	10
Table 4-1. Reference Method Quality Control Requirements and Target Acceptance Criteria .....	14
Table 4-2. Summary of Data Recording Process .....	17
Table 6-1. Accuracy Results .....	26
Table 6-2. Calculated Precision of the APSA-360 .....	27
Table 6-3. Span and Zero Baseline Response .....	30
Table 6-4. Span and Zero Drift Check Results .....	31
Table 6-5. Response Time Determinations .....	32
Table 6-6. Interference Effect Evaluation .....	33



## List of Abbreviations

AFO	animal feeding operation
AMS	Advanced Monitoring Systems
ASTM	American Society for Testing and Materials
CCV	continuing calibration verification
CI	confidence interval
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
ETV	Environmental Technology Verification
GC	gas chromatography
H <sub>2</sub> S	hydrogen sulfide
i.d.	internal diameter
Lpm	liter per minute
m	meter
mm	millimeter
NIST	National Institute of Standards and Technology
ln	natural logarithm
PE	performance evaluation
PFPD	pulsed flame photometric detection
pg	picogram
ppb	part per billion
ppm	part per million
%D	percent difference
%R	percent recovery
QA	quality assurance
QC	quality control
QCS	quality control sample
QMP	quality management plan
RSD	relative standard deviation
scc	standard cubic centimeter
sccm	standard cubic centimeter per minute
SD	standard deviation
SO <sub>2</sub>	sulfur dioxide
TSA	technical systems audit
UHP	ultra-high purity
USDA	U.S. Department of Agriculture

---

## **Chapter 1**

### **Background**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) supports the Environmental Technology Verification (ETV) Program to facilitate the deployment of innovative environmental technologies through performance verification and dissemination of information. The goal of the ETV Program is to further environmental protection by accelerating the acceptance and use of improved and cost-effective technologies. ETV seeks to achieve this goal by providing high-quality, peer-reviewed data on technology performance to those involved in the design, distribution, financing, permitting, purchase, and use of environmental technologies.

ETV works in partnership with recognized testing organizations; with stakeholder groups consisting of buyers, vendor organizations, and permittees; and with the full participation of individual technology developers. The program evaluates the performance of innovative technologies by developing test plans that are responsive to the needs of stakeholders, conducting field or laboratory tests (as appropriate), collecting and analyzing data, and preparing peer-reviewed reports. All evaluations are conducted in accordance with rigorous quality assurance (QA) protocols to ensure that data of known and adequate quality are generated and that the results are defensible.

The EPA's National Exposure Research Laboratory and its verification organization partner, Battelle, operate the Advanced Monitoring Systems (AMS) Center under ETV. The AMS Center, in collaboration with the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA's) National Soil Tilth Laboratory and Applied Measurement Science, recently evaluated the performance of the Horiba Instruments, Inc., APSA-360 ambient hydrogen sulfide (H<sub>2</sub>S) analyzer in quantifying H<sub>2</sub>S in ambient air at a swine finishing farm.

---

## Chapter 2

### Technology Description

The objective of the ETV AMS Center is to verify the performance characteristics of environmental monitoring technologies for air, water, and soil. This verification report provides results for the verification testing of the APSA-360. Following is a description of the APSA-360, based on information provided by the vendor. The information provided below was not verified in this test.

The APSA-360 continuously measures the concentration of H<sub>2</sub>S (including other sulfide compounds) in ambient air using an H<sub>2</sub>S converter and sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>) ultraviolet luminescence as the measurement principle. A hydrocarbon reduction membrane eliminates hydrocarbon interference in the sample gas. The APSA-360 can be configured to measure SO<sub>2</sub> and/or H<sub>2</sub>S by switching measuring lines into and out of the built-in H<sub>2</sub>S converter at regular intervals or with the measuring line fixed to SO<sub>2</sub> or H<sub>2</sub>S. The APSA-360 verified in this test was configured to measure only H<sub>2</sub>S. The basic system can be operated by controls on the front panel when it is connected to a calibration gas, but it can also be upgraded for remote monitoring by adding a computer, a controller, and a recorder using the APSA-360 AP-Remote software for Microsoft Windows. The APSA-360 can be calibrated automatically or manually and has a lower detection limit of 4 parts per billion (ppb).



**Figure 2-1. Horiba Instruments, Inc., APSA-360 Ambient Hydrogen Sulfide Analyzer**

Data logged by the AP-Remote software can be exported into Microsoft Excel. The APSA-360 has internal storage for up to several weeks of data depending on the sample rate. The data are accessible by the front panel or the AP-Remote software. Data may also be recorded by an external data logger that is connected to the analog and digital outputs of the APSA-360. As configured for the verification test, the 4-20 mA instantaneous H<sub>2</sub>S reading was output to an analog input channel of a Campbell Scientific Model CR43 data logger that was made available by the USDA. The data logger program sampled the APSA-360 signal every ten seconds and recorded one-minute

averages calculated from six instantaneous readings. The external data logger was used for the verification test because the AP-Remote software at the time was operational only for the Horiba ambient carbon monoxide, nitrogen oxides, SO<sub>2</sub> (only Model APSA-360 CE), ozone, and total hydrocarbon analyzers. In the future, AP-Remote will be available for the APSA-360 H<sub>2</sub>S Analyzer.

---

The APSA-360 weighs 25 kilograms (55 pounds); it is 221 millimeters (mm, 8.7 inches) high, 430 mm (17 inches) wide, and 550 mm (22.7 inches) deep (excluding front and rear extrusions). The list price of the APSA-360 H<sub>2</sub>S-only analyzer is approximately \$18,000. The APSA-360 that alternately measures SO<sub>2</sub> and H<sub>2</sub>S is list priced at approximately \$24,000.

---

## Chapter 3

### Test Design and Procedures

#### 3.1 Introduction

H<sub>2</sub>S is formed at animal feeding operations (AFOs) during the bacterial decomposition of sulfur-containing organic compounds present in manure. Also known as a component of sewer gas, H<sub>2</sub>S has the characteristic odor of rotten eggs and, at high levels [greater than 500 parts per million (ppm)], can cause death from even brief exposure. As a result, H<sub>2</sub>S analyzers were identified as a priority technology category through the AMS Center stakeholder process.

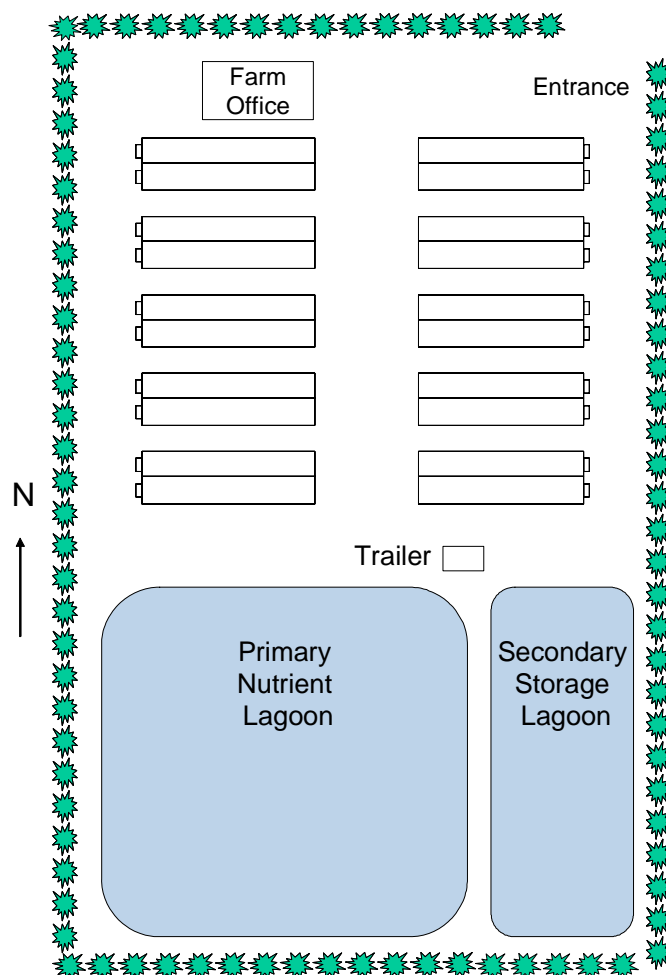
This verification test was conducted according to procedures specified in the *Test/QA Plan for Verification of Ambient Hydrogen Sulfide Analyzers at a Swine Finishing Farm*,<sup>(1)</sup> with the exception of three deviations that are addressed later in this report. The testing was conducted at a large swine finishing farm near Ames, Iowa. This verification test was conducted for six weeks between April 25 and June 3, 2005. As discussed in Section 3.3, the APSA-360 was not installed at the test site until May 16, 2005. Testing was conducted on the APSA-360 between May 17 and June 3, 2005, during which time the APSA-360 continuously measured H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations in ambient air or synthetic air samples of known concentration (“standards”). The performance of the APSA-360 was evaluated in terms of

- Accuracy
- Bias
- Precision
- Linearity
- Span and zero drift
- Response time
- Interference effects
- Comparability
- Data completeness
- Operational factors.

#### 3.2 Site Description

The layout of the swine finishing farm is shown in Figure 3-1. The farm had 10 animal barns, arranged in two parallel rows of five, with each barn housing up to 2,000 swine. Figure 3-2 shows the interior of a swine barn; natural ventilation was regulated by raising or lowering curtains, shown in the foreground. The urine and feces from the swine leave the barns through wood slats in the floor and are flushed through underground piping into a nutrient lagoon

located on the southern end of the farm; supernatant liquid from the primary lagoon is pumped into a secondary storage lagoon and used to fertilize nearby fields. The primary  $H_2S$  source was expected to be the lagoons. The perimeter of the farm is lined with trees, and agricultural fields surround the perimeter. A temperature-regulated instrument trailer was placed on-site during the test to house the monitoring equipment and to provide a sheltered work space. Figure 3-3 shows the test site as photographed from the south of the lagoons, showing the instrument trailer and swine barns in the background. The APSA-360 was installed inside the instrument trailer, and a Teflon inlet line (sampling ambient air through the east window) was connected to a Teflon manifold and was used to sample ambient air. The Teflon inlet line was protected from rain by an inverted funnel. The Teflon manifold used for supplying ambient air and gas standards to the APSA-360 is shown in Figure 3-4. Sample tubing lengths were minimized both for ambient air sampling and for delivery of gas standards.



**Figure 3-1. Test Site**

### 3.3 Test Design

Table 3-1 shows the activities involved in preparing for and conducting the verification test.

The APSA-360 evaluated during this verification test was manufactured in Germany in July 2004 and shipped to Horiba in California on April 15, 2005. Delays were encountered in shipping the APSA-360 to the United States and clearing customs. To accommodate



**Figure 3-2. Swine Barn Interior**





**Figure 3-3. Test Site Lagoons**

these delays, the verification test start date (originally April 18, 2005) was delayed by one week, and the APSA-360 was first installed at the test site on April 22, 2005, by a vendor representative with assistance from Battelle and USDA staff. Trial operations revealed that the APSA-360 was not performing up to the vendor representative's expectations. After Horiba, Battelle, and USDA staff examined the APSA-360 for possible malfunctions for several days, it was decided on April 25, 2005, that the APSA-360 should be shipped to the California Horiba office for inspection and repair, if needed. The APSA-360 was repaired by Horiba staff and returned to USDA on May 16, 2005. USDA staff installed the APSA-360 at the field site the same day and began testing the APSA-360 on Tuesday, May 17, 2005. A Campbell Scientific Model CR43 data logger, provided by USDA, was used to collect the APSA-360 data from the analog output. Data were output by the APSA-360 using the 4- to 20-milliamp range; a resistor was used to produce a voltage signal, which was collected by the data logger.

Battelle and USDA staff worked with the vendor representative to establish procedures for operating the APSA-360 during this verification test. The vendor representative trained Battelle and USDA staff to check several instrument parameters to verify the operation of the APSA-360 and identify signs of malfunction. A checklist, provided by the vendor representative and included as Appendix A, was completed daily (Monday through Friday) by Battelle or USDA staff. In general, Battelle or USDA staff verified that the APSA-360 power was on, checked for alarms, and downloaded the APSA-360 data from the data logger (recorded as one-minute averages of instantaneous data logged every 10 seconds) on a daily basis. In the event of an instrument malfunction, Battelle and/or USDA staff could contact the vendor representative and conduct minor troubleshooting procedures as necessary, but were not expected to make any major repairs. All the testing activities, which are described in the following sections, were conducted by Battelle and/or USDA staff.



**Figure 3-4. Teflon Manifold**

**Table 3-1. Test Activities**

Week of	Activities
April 11	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Testing preparations by USDA and Battelle staff</li> <li>• Initial installation of APSA-360</li> </ul>
April 18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Training of USDA and Battelle staff by vendor representative</li> <li>• Conduct trial operations</li> <li>• Troubleshoot APSA-360</li> </ul>
April 25 (Testing Week 1)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ship APSA-360 to Horiba (Irvine, California) for inspection and repair</li> <li>• Ongoing testing activities, excluding APSA-360</li> <li>• Three time-integrated reference samples collected and analyzed</li> </ul>
May 2 (Testing Week 2)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing testing activities, excluding APSA-360</li> <li>• Three time-integrated reference samples collected and analyzed</li> <li>• Install <i>in situ</i> reference method instrumentation at test site</li> </ul>
May 9 (Testing Week 3)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ongoing testing activities, excluding APSA-360</li> <li>• Five time-integrated reference samples collected and analyzed</li> </ul>
May 16 (Testing Week 4)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Install APSA-360</li> <li>• Zero air/H<sub>2</sub>S standard challenge for analyzer response (baseline) and analyzer response time</li> <li>• Two zero/span checks</li> <li>• Four time-integrated reference samples collected and analyzed</li> <li>• Multipoint H<sub>2</sub>S standard challenges for accuracy, bias, precision, linearity</li> <li>• Routine operation</li> </ul>
May 23 (Testing Week 5)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Two zero/span checks</li> <li>• Multipoint H<sub>2</sub>S standard challenges for accuracy, bias, precision, linearity</li> <li>• Gas standard challenges for interference check</li> <li>• Troubleshoot <i>in situ</i> reference method instrumentation</li> <li>• Begin <i>in situ</i> reference measurements</li> <li>• Routine operation</li> </ul>
May 30 (Testing Week 6)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Three zero/span checks</li> <li>• Continue <i>in situ</i> reference method measurements</li> <li>• Demobilize <i>in situ</i> reference method instrumentation</li> <li>• Remove APSA-360 from test site</li> </ul>

Individual data files from the data logger (comma-delimited text), containing the day of year, time, and voltage readings, were opened in Microsoft Excel. The APSA-360 voltage readings were converted to H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations using a calibration produced from a linear regression of APSA-360 panel readings (in ppb) versus the voltage signal ( $y = 1.68x - 2.05$ ). This calibration was applied to all APSA-360 data collected during this verification test. The resulting H<sub>2</sub>S concentration data were analyzed using the procedures outlined in Chapter 5 of this report. The final data file containing the full APSA-360 data set from this verification test was less than 700 kilobytes.

Gas standard dilutions were supplied to the APSA-360 during testing activities for 20 minutes using a programmable dilution system (EnviroNics Series 4040, with silanized internal components) that supplied each mixture to the Teflon manifold at flow rates at least 1 liter per minute (Lpm) in excess of the APSA-360 sampling flow rate (approximately 0.8 Lpm). The data logger program sampled the APSA-360 signal every 10 seconds and recorded one-minute



averages. The average APSA-360 response to each gas standard was calculated from the last 5 minutes of data from each delivery period (5 data points). The last five minutes were used because the APSA-360 response appeared to be stable during that period (i.e., a general increase or decrease in the response was not apparent). These average APSA-360 response values were used in the calculations described in Chapter 5 of this report.

The APSA-360 H<sub>2</sub>S readings when sampling ambient air were compared to concurrent measurements by two H<sub>2</sub>S reference methods. For comparison with the time-integrated reference method (described in Section 3.3.5.1), the APSA-360 H<sub>2</sub>S readings were averaged to the same time period over which the reference method samples were collected (approximately 7.5 hours). For comparison with the *in situ* reference method (described in Section 3.3.5.2), APSA-360 readings were averaged over 15-minute periods, centered on the *in situ* reference method sample times. The performance results of the APSA-360 during this verification test are presented in Chapter 6 of this report and summarized in Chapter 7.

### 3.3.1 Accuracy, Bias, Precision, and Linearity

During Week 4 and Week 5 of the verification test, the APSA-360 was challenged with a certified compressed H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard (5.12 ppm, H<sub>2</sub>S Scott Specialty Gases) diluted in zero air to achieve measurements over a range of concentrations from approximately 0 to 300 ppb. Three non-consecutive measurements were recorded at each of five nominal concentration levels. Each concentration was supplied to the APSA-360 for 20 minutes. Table 3-2 shows the nominal H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations supplied to the APSA-360 and the order in which they were supplied. As Table 3-2 indicates, the H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations were supplied to the APSA-360 in increasing order, then in random order, and finally in decreasing order. After the last measurement was recorded, the APSA-360 was returned to sampling ambient air.

**Table 3-2. H<sub>2</sub>S Concentrations and Order for Multipoint Challenges**

Concentration	0 ppb	30 ppb	90 ppb	150 ppb	300 ppb
Measurement	1	2	3	4	5
Number	7	10	6	9	8
	15	14	13	12	11

The APSA-360 response to the series of H<sub>2</sub>S gas standards was used to evaluate accuracy, bias, precision, and linearity. The statistical procedures used are presented in Section 5. Accuracy was calculated at each concentration and for each replicate relative to the nominal H<sub>2</sub>S concentration. Bias was calculated for each series of multipoint H<sub>2</sub>S challenges. The APSA-360 precision was demonstrated by the reproducibility of the average APSA-360 response at each nominal H<sub>2</sub>S concentration. Linearity was assessed by establishing a multipoint calibration curve from the APSA-360 response.

### 3.3.2 Span and Zero Drift

The baseline response of the APSA-360 to zero air and a 30-ppb dilution of a compressed H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard was determined on the first day it was tested (Week 4 of the verification test). The APSA-360 was challenged alternately with the diluted H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard and zero air, for a total

---

of five replicates of both the gas standard and zero air. Each gas was supplied sequentially for 20 minutes and the average response calculated for each replicate using data from the last 5 minutes of each delivery period. The overall average and standard deviation of the APSA-360 response to zero air and to the 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard were calculated from the average response for the five replicates. Control charts showing the [ $\pm 2$  standard deviation (SD)] warning and ( $\pm 3$  SD) action limits were constructed for the span and zero response for use in evaluating drift.

At least twice each week, zero air and a 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard were supplied to the APSA-360 for 20 minutes for a total of seven zero/span checks. The gas standard dilution system was not flushed with the H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard before performing two of the span checks. Thus, the results of five span drift checks were used to evaluate span drift. Each response was compared to the baseline response to determine whether drift occurred in the APSA-360 sensitivity to zero air or the 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard.

### **3.3.3 Response Time**

The data collected during the zero/span baseline response checks were used to determine the APSA-360 response time. The 95% rise time was calculated for changes from zero air to the 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard, and the 95% fall time was calculated for changes from the 30-ppb standard to zero air. A minimum of three individual measurements was used to determine the average rise and fall times.

### **3.3.4 Interference Effects**

The APSA-360 was challenged with a series of gases (Table 3-3) that may be present at an AFO and could interfere with the APSA-360 response to H<sub>2</sub>S. Each interferant was supplied at either 100 or 500 ppb, as listed in Table 3-3, in the presence and absence of 100 ppb of H<sub>2</sub>S. A 100-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard was supplied to the APSA-360 for 20 minutes, and the responses were recorded. The APSA-360 was then supplied with zero air for five minutes. The first interferant was diluted with zero air and delivered to the APSA-360 for 20 minutes. After the responses were recorded, the APSA-360 was supplied with zero air for five minutes. A mixture of the first interferant (SO<sub>2</sub>) at 100 ppb with 100-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S in zero air was supplied to the APSA-360 for 20 minutes. The APSA-360 responses were recorded, and zero air was supplied to the APSA-360 for approximately five minutes. This process was repeated for each interferant at the concentrations listed in Table 3-3.

### **3.3.5 Comparability**

The comparability of the APSA-360 response to ambient air was evaluated by comparing its response to two H<sub>2</sub>S reference methods (time-integrated and *in situ*), which were carried out by USDA and Applied Measurement Science. The two reference methods were based on American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) Method D5504-01,<sup>(2)</sup> with the following substitution: pulsed flame photometric detection (PFPD) was used instead of sulfur chemiluminescence detection. Reference H<sub>2</sub>S measurements in ambient air were conducted using gas chromatography (GC) with PFPD using two sample collection techniques. Although the analytical approach of the two methods was the same, they differed in sample collection and handling. The

**Table 3-3. Interferants and Approximate Concentrations for Interference Checks**

Interferant	Approximate Concentration (ppb)
Sulfur dioxide	100
Carbonyl sulfide	100
Carbon disulfide	100
Methyl mercaptan	100
Dimethyl sulfide	100
Hydrocarbon blend (mixture of C1 to C6 alkanes)	500 (total)
Ammonia	500

two reference methods were not conducted simultaneously; therefore the results of the two methods could not be compared. As discussed in Section 4.1, not all of the QC requirements of the time-integrated and *in situ* reference methods were satisfied and, consequently, the quality of the reference method data was not confirmed. Therefore, in addition to the linear regression analysis described in the test/QA plan,<sup>(1)</sup> the reference method data were compared to the APSA-360 data in a more qualitative manner. The APSA-360 data were compared to the reference method data to determine whether the measured H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations were statistically significantly different at the 95% confidence level and the linear regression analysis was repeated including only those data that were not significantly different.

#### 3.3.5.1 Time-Integrated Comparability

Time-integrated reference measurements were conducted by collecting ambient air samples over relatively long periods (up to eight hours) in evacuated 1.4-liter Silonite canisters (Entech Instruments, Inc.) and were taken to the USDA laboratory for analysis. Ambient air was drawn into the evacuated canisters from the same Teflon manifold to which the APSA-360 was connected. The canisters were fitted with a silanized Entech flow controller and pressure gauge to restrict the air flow to approximately one to three standard cubic centimeters per minute (sccm), allowing the canisters to fill slowly over approximately eight hours. A performance evaluation (PE) audit of the canister sampling flow rate revealed that the flow rate varied between 1.01 and 2.52 sccm over 7.5 hours. The variability in the canister sampling flow rate could result in uneven weighting of the time-integrated air sample collected in the canister, potentially resulting in biased results. Samples were collected during the following time periods: April 29 to 30, May 4 to 5, May 11 to 13, and May 18 to 21. Up to three samples were collected over eight-hour intervals on each sampling day according to the following approximate schedule: 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., 6:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m., and 2:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.

The Silonite canisters were cleaned before sample collection using an Entech 3120a Canister Cleaning System by heating under vacuum at 120°C, filling with humidified nitrogen, and evacuating to a pressure of 50 millitorr. This process was repeated for 50 cycles. Canisters were then transported to the test site for sampling and returned to the laboratory for analysis. Canisters were sampled using an Entech 7500 Series Robotic Autosampler, which was connected to an Entech 7100A Preconcentrator and an Agilent 6890 GC with an OI Analytical PFPD. Canisters

---

were heated to 100°C during sample transfer, and all transfer lines were maintained at 100°C. Helium carrier gas was used at a flow of 16 sccm. A sample of known volume [10 to 400 standard cubic centimeters (scc), depending upon the expected concentration] was withdrawn from the canister and trapped on glass beads at -20°C (the bead trap was subsequently desorbed at 10°C), and collected on a Tenax® trap at -80°C to reduce water in the system. The Tenax trap was heated to 180°C, and the desorbed components were cryofocused at -150°C before a final heating and transfer to the GC column. The column was a GS-Gaspro, 60 meter (m) × 0.32 mm inner diameter (i.d.) capillary column (J & W Scientific). The column was held at 35°C for 0.5 minutes, ramped to 230°C at 12°C per minute, and held at 230°C for the remainder of the approximately 20-minute run. The test/QA plan<sup>(1)</sup> stated that samples would be analyzed within 24 hours of collection. It was not always possible to analyze the canisters within the 24-hour time frame; in some cases, samples could not be analyzed until 4 days after collection because of instrument availability. The longer holding times may have resulted in H<sub>2</sub>S loss in the canisters, and consequently to artificially low H<sub>2</sub>S reference measurement results. Sample degradation in the canisters was not verified since a holding time study was not performed on ambient air samples. The test/QA plan<sup>(1)</sup> stated that the acceptability of the 24-hour holding time would be verified on an ambient air sample. A deviation report was filed to address the holding time issues. A multipoint calibration curve from approximately 150 to 2,300 picograms (pg) for H<sub>2</sub>S was constructed daily (before reference analyses were conducted) by injecting several volumes of a diluted H<sub>2</sub>S compressed gas standard (5.12 ppm H<sub>2</sub>S, Scott Specialty Gases) onto the GC-PFPD. Instrument blanks (i.e., zero-volume injections) were included in each analytical run. Based on the instrument blank results, the quantitation limit (average blank result plus 10 times the standard deviation of the blank) for a 10-scc injection was 2.2 ppb.

#### 3.3.5.2 In Situ Comparability

*In situ* reference measurements were conducted by Applied Measurement Science. The instrumentation for the *in situ* method was installed in the instrument trailer at the test site. Air samples were drawn from a Teflon tube whose inlet was collocated with the Teflon manifold sampling inlet at a flow rate of approximately 5 Lpm to reduce the residence time of ambient air in the inlet. Volatile compounds in the samples were cryotrapped, thermally desorbed, and injected directly onto a Varian 3800 GC with PFPD. The duration of sample collection was adjusted so that the mass of H<sub>2</sub>S was maintained, to the extent possible, within the range of the PFPD system, nominally from 30 pg to 3,000 pg per sample. Sample collection times varied between 6 seconds and 8 minutes. The column was a GS-Gaspro 30-m × 0.32-mm i.d. capillary column (J & W Scientific). Helium carrier gas was used at a flow of 2 sccm. The column was held at -10°C for 2 minutes, ramped to 200°C at 40°C per minute, and held at 200°C for the remainder of the approximately 20-minute run. Multilevel calibrations were performed using the same certified H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard (5.12 ppm H<sub>2</sub>S, Scott Specialty Gases) and programmable dilution system used for performing testing activities. *In situ* reference measurements were conducted as frequently as possible (usually every 16 minutes) over a four-day period at the end of the verification test. Due to technical problems with the reference method air sampling valve system, measurements could not be conducted over the ten days specified in the test/QA plan.<sup>(1)</sup> Of the ambient air measurements conducted by the *in situ* reference method, 41 of the 53 reference measurements could be used for comparison to the APSA-360 results. The other 12 measurements were presented as upper (result below quantitation limit) or lower (saturated H<sub>2</sub>S peak) limits.

---

### ***3.3.6 Data Completeness***

Data completeness was assessed based on the overall data return achieved by the APSA-360.

### ***3.3.7 Operational Factors***

Operational factors such as maintenance needs, data output, consumables used, ease of use, and repair requirements were evaluated based on the observations of Battelle and USDA staff.

---

## **Chapter 4**

### **Quality Assurance/Quality Control**

QA/quality control (QC) procedures were performed in accordance with the quality management plan (QMP) for the AMS Center<sup>(3)</sup> and the test/QA plan for this verification test<sup>(1)</sup> with the exception of three deviations, which have been addressed in this report. First, the time-integrated reference method canister flow rate was lower than expected. This deviation did not impact the quality of this verification test. The second deviation from the test/QA plan<sup>(1)</sup> involved the reference method QC requirements, which were not fully satisfied. Third, the pre-analytical holding time for ten of the 15 time-integrated reference samples was longer than 24 hours. As discussed in Section 4.1 and Section 3.3.5.1, the second and third deviations, respectively, did impact the comparisons that were performed with the reference method data.

#### **4.1 Reference Method Quality Control Results**

Table 4-1 summarizes the reference method QC requirements. Both reference methods were required to analyze continuing calibration verifications (CCV), QC samples (QCS), and field blanks. The time-integrated H<sub>2</sub>S reference method was also required to repeat analysis of 10% of the samples to verify method precision.

##### ***4.1.1 Time-Integrated Reference Method Quality Control Results***

It was determined that the USDA laboratory GC-PFPD system required calibration each day before analysis of reference samples. This eliminated the need for running CCV samples, so there was no expectation for agreement to previous calibration results. QCSs were not run as frequently as stated in Table 4-1, but often were included at the end of the analysis run.

Approximately half of the analysis runs had at least one QCS that passed the requirement listed in Table 4-1. The other half either had failed QCSs or none were included in the run. Replicate H<sub>2</sub>S precision was not determined for the same injection volume. However, the results for four out of 13 comparisons of variable-volume injections from the same sample were within 30% of one another by percent difference (%D). Measurement accuracy results are discussed in more detail in Section 4.2.1. Briefly, four performance evaluation (PE) samples were submitted to the USDA laboratory; reference method results for two of the samples were within the acceptance criterion for measurement accuracy. The other two results were 38% and undetectable H<sub>2</sub>S levels. Finally, two field blank samples were submitted to the USDA laboratory for analysis, and both resulted in undetectable H<sub>2</sub>S levels by the GC-PFPD system. Since the QC requirements for the time-integrated reference method were not satisfied and only two quantitative time-integrated reference results were available for the period during which the APSA-360 was operational at

**Table 4-1. Reference Method Quality Control Requirements and Target Acceptance Criteria**

QC Parameter	Addressed By	Required Performance
CCV	CCV run before analysis of reference samples each day	%D of CCV result within 30% of expected value
QCS	QCS run every 4 hours and after analysis of reference samples each day	%D of QCS result within 30% of expected value
Replicate H <sub>2</sub> S precision	Analyze 10% of all samples twice <sup>(a)</sup>	%D within 30% of one another
Measurement accuracy	Analyze H <sub>2</sub> S standard from independent source <sup>(b)</sup>	Results within 30% of expected value
Field blanks	Analyze canisters filled with zero air recovered from the test site (weekly) <sup>(a)</sup> Analyze zero air passed through sample manifold (weekly) <sup>(c)</sup>	If blank >30% of sample, H <sub>2</sub> S, data must be flagged

<sup>(a)</sup> Time-integrated H<sub>2</sub>S reference method only.

<sup>(b)</sup> This standard was provided as part of the PE audit.

<sup>(c)</sup> *In situ* H<sub>2</sub>S reference method only.

the field site, the results were not quantitatively compared to the APSA-360 data. The time-integrated reference method and APSA-360 data were analyzed to determine whether they were significantly different from each other at the 95% confidence level (see Section 5.8, Comparability).

#### **4.1.2 In Situ Reference Method Quality Control Results**

CCV samples were run each day when the *in situ* reference method was conducting ambient measurements. If results were not within 30% of the expected value by %D, a multilevel calibration curve was generated. At least once daily, a QCS or measurement accuracy sample was analyzed. Six QCS samples were analyzed, and all were within 30% of the expected concentration by %D. QCS samples from a second gas standard (110 ppb H<sub>2</sub>S, Air Liquide) were analyzed six times. Two results fell outside of the calibration curve, and one was outside of the acceptance criterion; three results met the acceptance criterion. One QCS from a third gas standard (4.78 ppm H<sub>2</sub>S, Scott Marrin) was made and was within 30% of the expected value. The measurement precision of four analyses of a 10-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard was 8.1% relative standard deviation (RSD). Three out of four measurement accuracy samples delivered as PE audit samples were within the acceptance criterion. Once during the verification test, the *in situ* reference method sampled zero air delivered through the ambient air inlet. The measurement result was 3.1 ppb, which is approximately the same as the method quantitation limit for a 50-cubic-centimeter sample (200 pg/sample). Since the QC requirements for the *in situ* reference method were not all satisfied, the results were compared to the APSA-360 data both quantitatively and qualitatively [i.e., to determine whether they were significantly different from each other at the 95% confidence level (see Section 5.8, Comparability)].

---

## 4.2 Audits

### 4.2.1 Performance Evaluation Audits

A PE audit was conducted to assess the quality of the H<sub>2</sub>S reference method measurements. In the PE audit, key aspects of the reference measurements were checked by comparing them with an independent National Institute of Standards and Technology- (NIST-) traceable standard. The PE audit of the H<sub>2</sub>S reference methods was performed by supplying to each reference method a blind, independent, NIST-traceable H<sub>2</sub>S standard provided by Battelle. The output of a certified H<sub>2</sub>S permeation tube (VICI Metronics, held at 30°C) was diluted in ultra-high purity (UHP) zero air (approximately 2.7 to 3.9 Lpm) to produce H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations between 60 and 90 ppb. The PE samples were analyzed in the same manner as the ambient air samples, and the analytical results for the PE samples were compared to the nominal concentration. The target criterion for the PE audit was agreement of the analytical result within 30% of the nominal H<sub>2</sub>S concentration. If the PE audit results did not meet the tolerances required, they were repeated. PE audits of the reference methods were required to be performed once prior to the start of the test and two times during the test, at a minimum. A total of four PE audit samples each were submitted to the USDA laboratory and to the *in situ* reference method for analysis. The USDA time-integrated reference method results for the first and last PE audit samples met the acceptance criterion, while the other two did not. The *in situ* reference method result met the acceptance criterion for the first, third, and fourth PE audit sample.

A PE audit of the ambient air sample flow rate for the time-integrated reference method was performed by comparing it to an independent flow measurement device. The target criterion for this PE audit was agreement within the expected range (i.e., 2 to 3 sccm). The PE audit of the canister air sampling rate revealed that the actual flow rates for the Entech Flow Controller used for this verification test ranged from 1.01 to 2.52 sccm over 7.5 hours. The flow controller was not adjusted to increase the flow rates since this would have the undesirable effect of shortening the time-integrated sample duration. This deviation from the test/QA plan<sup>(1)</sup> was filed. This deviation did not impact the quality of this verification test since the actual flow rate is not used in the reference method analysis. However, variability in the canister sampling flow rate over the 7.5-hour collection time would impact the comparability of the air collected in the canister and that sampled by the APSA-360.

A PE audit of the programmable dilution system was performed by comparing its output to an independent flow measurement device. One mid-range flow rate was audited for each flow controller (i.e., 0.03, 0.3, and 5 Lpm) within the dilution system. The target criterion for this PE audit was agreement within 5% of the flow readings; all measured flows agreed within 5%. These audits were performed once during the verification test.

### 4.2.2 Technical Systems Audits

The Battelle Quality Manager performed a technical systems audit (TSA) on April 28 and 29, 2005, to ensure that the verification test was being performed in accordance with the AMS Center QMP,<sup>(3)</sup> the test/QA plan,<sup>(1)</sup> ASTM method D5504-01,<sup>(2)</sup> and any standard operating procedures used by USDA or Applied Measurement Science. In the TSA, the Battelle Quality Manager toured the test site and the USDA laboratory, observed the H<sub>2</sub>S reference method sampling and sample recovery, inspected documentation of H<sub>2</sub>S sample chain of custody, and



---

reviewed APSA-360-specific record books. The Battelle Quality Manager also reviewed the reference methods used, compared actual test procedures to those specified by the test/QA plan,<sup>(1)</sup> and reviewed data acquisition and handling procedures.

Observations and findings from this audit were documented and submitted to the Battelle Verification Test Coordinator for response. No findings were documented that required any corrective action. The records concerning the TSA are stored for at least seven years with the Battelle Quality Manager.

#### ***4.2.3 Audit of Data Quality***

At least 10% of the data acquired during the verification test were audited. Battelle's Quality Manager or his designee traced the data from the initial acquisition, through reduction and statistical analysis, to final reporting, to ensure the integrity of the reported results. All calculations performed on the data undergoing the audit were checked.

### **4.3 Quality Assurance/Quality Control Reporting**

Each assessment and audit was documented in accordance with Sections 3.3.4 and 3.3.5 of the QMP for the ETV AMS Center.<sup>(3)</sup> Once the assessment report was prepared, the Battelle Verification Test Coordinator ensured that a response was provided for each adverse finding or potential problem and implemented any necessary follow-up corrective action. The Battelle Quality Manager ensured that follow-up corrective action was taken. The results of the TSA were sent to the EPA.

### **4.4 Data Review**

Records generated in the verification test were reviewed before these records were used to calculate, evaluate, or report verification results. Table 4-2 summarizes the types of data recorded. The review was performed by a technical staff member involved in the verification test, but not the staff member who originally generated the record. The person performing the review added his/her initials and the date to a hard copy of the record being reviewed.

**Table 4-2. Summary of Data Recording Process**

<b>Data to Be Recorded</b>	<b>Where Recorded</b>	<b>How Often Recorded</b>	<b>By Whom</b>	<b>Disposition of Data</b>
Dates, times, and details of test events, APSA-360 maintenance, down time, etc.	ETV laboratory record books or data recording forms	Start/end of test procedure, and at each change of a test parameter or change of APSA-360 status	Battelle if on-site; USDA if Battelle not on-site	Used to organize and check test results; manually incorporated in data spreadsheets as necessary
APSA-360 calibration information	ETV laboratory record books or electronically	At APSA-360 calibration or recalibration	Electronic data by vendor; Battelle if on-site; USDA if Battelle not on-site	Incorporated in verification report as necessary
APSA-360 H <sub>2</sub> S readings	Recorded electronically by each APSA-360 and then downloaded to computer at least weekly	Recorded continuously	APSA-360 vendor, for transfer to Battelle if on-site; transfer to USDA if Battelle not on-site	Converted to spreadsheet for statistical analysis and comparisons
Reference sample collection procedures, reference method procedures, calibrations and QA data, etc.	Laboratory record books and electronically by analytical method	Throughout sampling and analysis processes	USDA and Applied Measurement Science	Retained as documentation of reference method performance
Reference method H <sub>2</sub> S analysis results	Electronically from H <sub>2</sub> S analytical method	Every sample analysis	Applied Measurement Science	Entered into or converted to spreadsheets for calculation of ambient H <sub>2</sub> S results and statistical analysis and comparisons
	Hard-copy printouts and data sheets	Every sample analysis	USDA	

---

## Chapter 5

### Statistical Methods and Reported Parameters

The statistical methods presented in this chapter were used to verify the performance parameters listed in Section 3.1.

#### 5.1 Accuracy

Accuracy of the H<sub>2</sub>S APSA-360 with respect to the individual H<sub>2</sub>S gas standards was assessed as the percent recovery (%R), using Equation 1:

$$\%R = \left[ 1 + \left( \frac{Y - X}{X} \right) \right] \times 100 \quad (1)$$

where Y is the average measured APSA-360 response (as defined in Section 3.3) and X is the nominal H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard concentration. The average, minimum, and maximum %R values are reported for each series of multilevel H<sub>2</sub>S challenges. A %R value of 100% indicates perfect agreement between the averaged measured APSA-360 response and the nominal H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard concentration.

#### 5.2 Bias

Bias of the APSA-360 was defined as a systematic error in measurement that resulted in measured error that was consistently positive or negative compared to the true value. The bias was calculated as the average %D of the APSA-360 compared to the nominal H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard concentration and was calculated for each series of multipoint H<sub>2</sub>S challenges, using Equation 2:

$$\% \bar{D} = \frac{1}{k} \sum_{i=1}^k \left( \frac{Y - X}{X} \right)_i \times 100 \quad (2)$$

where  $k$  is the number of valid comparisons, and Y and X are the same as in Equation 1.

#### 5.3 Precision

The precision of the APSA-360 was evaluated from the triplicate responses to each H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard supplied during the multipoint H<sub>2</sub>S standard challenges (outlined in Table 3-2). The

precision was defined as the %RSD of the averaged triplicate measurements and calculated for each H<sub>2</sub>S concentration listed in Table 3-2, using Equations 3 and 4:

$$\%RSD_i = \frac{SD_i}{\bar{Y}_i} \times 100 \quad (3)$$

$$SD = \sqrt{\frac{\sum (Y - \bar{Y})^2}{n - 1}} \quad (4)$$

where Y is the average APSA-360 response calculated from the last 5 data points (5 minutes) of each gas standard delivery period,  $\bar{Y}_i$  is the overall average of the Y values at H<sub>2</sub>S concentration *i* (*i* = 30, 90, 150, and 300 ppb), and *n* is the number of measurements (3). The overall average %RSD was calculated for each series of multipoint H<sub>2</sub>S challenges and included the %RSD for all H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations tested.

## 5.4 Linearity

Linearity was assessed by a linear regression analysis using the diluted H<sub>2</sub>S standard gas concentrations as the independent variable and results from the APSA-360 being tested as the dependent variable. Linearity was expressed in terms of slope, intercept, and coefficient of determination (*r*<sup>2</sup>).

## 5.5 Span and Zero Drift

The baseline response of the APSA-360 to zero air and the 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard was established on the first day of testing (Week 4). The overall average ( $\bar{Y}$ ) and SD of the APSA-360 response to zero air and the 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard were calculated from the average APSA-360 responses from each of the five replicate measurements conducted during the first week of testing. From these values, a control chart was constructed, and the  $\bar{Y} \pm 2SD$  “warning limit” and the  $\bar{Y} \pm 3SD$  “action limit” were calculated. Span drift was defined as having occurred if three consecutive span checks fell either above or below the warning limit. Zero drift was defined as having occurred if three consecutive zero checks fell either above or below the warning limit.

## 5.6 Response Time

Response time was assessed in terms of both the rise and fall times of the APSA-360 when sampling the 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard and zero air on the first day of testing. Rise time (i.e., 0% to 95% response time for the change in H<sub>2</sub>S concentration) was determined from the APSA-360 response to a rapid increase in the delivered H<sub>2</sub>S concentration. Once a stable response was achieved with the H<sub>2</sub>S standard, the fall time (i.e., the 100% to 5% response time) was determined in a similar way, switching from the H<sub>2</sub>S standard back to zero air.

---

## 5.7 Interference Effects

The interference effects of the APSA-360 were calculated in terms of the ratio of the response of the APSA-360 to the interferant relative to the actual concentration of the interfering species. For example, if 100 ppb of an interfering species resulted in a 1-ppb change in the response of the APSA-360, the interference effect was reported as 1% (i.e., 1 ppb/100 ppb). Interference effects are reported separately for each interferant both in the absence and in the presence of H<sub>2</sub>S in zero air.

## 5.8 Comparability

The comparability of the APSA-360 and reference method results with respect to ambient air was assessed by linear regression using the reference method H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations as the independent variable and the results from the APSA-360 as the dependent variable. The APSA-360 H<sub>2</sub>S measurements were averaged over the appropriate sample collection period for each reference method (i.e., approximately 7.5 hours or 15 minutes). Comparability was evaluated by linear regression analysis only for the *in situ* reference methods and was expressed in terms of slope, intercept, and r<sup>2</sup>; only two quantitative time-integrated reference results were available for the period during which the APSA-360 was operational at the field site. The linear regression analysis was repeated for the *in situ* reference method, including only the reference method results that were not significantly different from the APSA-360 average results at the 95% confidence level. The 95% confidence interval (CI) was calculated for each APSA-360 average, using Equation 5:

$$95\% \text{ CI} = \bar{Y} \pm \frac{t \times \text{SD}}{\sqrt{n}} \quad (5)$$

where  $\bar{Y}$  is the average APSA-360 response over the sample collection period, SD is the standard deviation of the APSA-360 data over the sample collection period,  $n$  is the number of APSA-360 readings used in the average, and  $t$  is the t-value of the Student's t-distribution for 95% confidence level and the degrees of freedom ( $n-1$ ). The calculated 95% CI for each APSA-360 average was compared to the corresponding reference measurement value to determine whether the results were statistically significantly different at the 95% confidence level. For comparison to the time-integrated reference method, the APSA-360 readings used for each average (approximately 7.5 hours) were plotted as a histogram to determine whether they were normally distributed. Most of the samples (3 out of 4) were best represented by a log-normal distribution. For those samples, the natural logarithms (ln) of the APSA-360 and reference measurements were used to calculate the 95% confidence level and to determine whether the results were significantly different at the 95% confidence level. This approach was also applied to the *in situ* H<sub>2</sub>S reference method, using the APSA-360 averages over 15-minute intervals, centered on the *in situ* reference measurement times. The APSA-360 readings used to compare to the *in situ* reference method were assumed to be normally distributed.

---

## 5.9 Data Completeness

Data completeness was calculated as the percentage of the total possible data return achieved over the entire field period. This calculation used the total hours of data recorded from each APSA-360, divided by the total hours of data in the entire field period. The field period was defined as beginning at 8:00 a.m. on April 25, 2005 and ending at 9:00 a.m. on June 3, 2005. No distinction was made in this calculation between data recorded during a specific test activity (e.g., data recorded for comparison to H<sub>2</sub>S reference method data) and that recorded during routine ambient air monitoring.

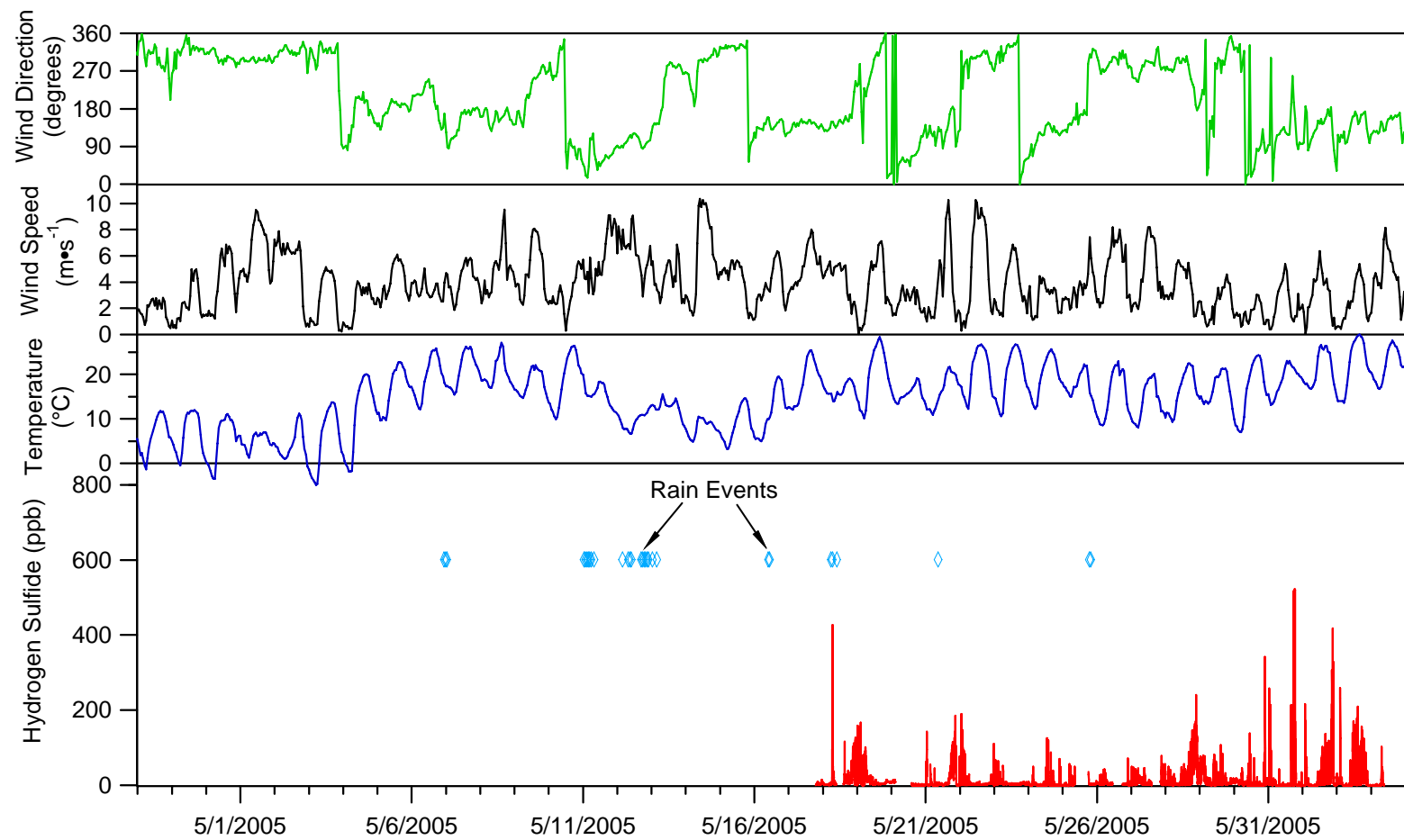
---

## Chapter 6

### Test Results

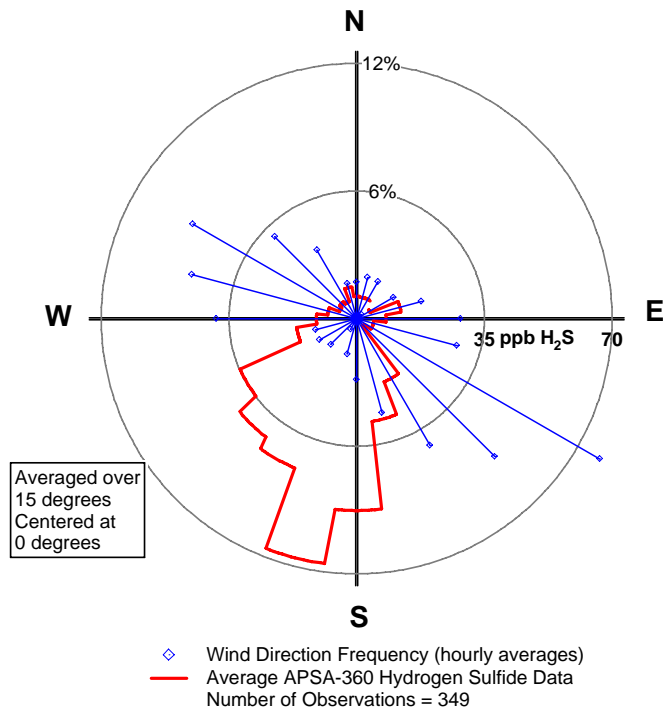
The results of the verification test of the APSA-360 are presented in this section. The values presented in this section are based on one-minute averages of the APSA-360 readings sampled every 10 seconds by the data logger. The APSA-360 was factory-calibrated and the calibration verified with UHP zero air and a 400-ppb dilution from a certified compressed gas cylinder standard (100 ppm H<sub>2</sub>S, Scott Specialty Gases) that was independent of the gas standard used for performing this verification test (5 ppm H<sub>2</sub>S, Scott Specialty Gases). Since the APSA-360 readings were -0.9 ppb and 393 ppb for zero air and the 400-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S calibration check, respectively, the APSA-360 calibration was not adjusted. Although the calibration check standard and the standard used for performing the verification testing were certified by the manufacturer to have accuracy better than  $\pm 5\%$ , differences between the actual H<sub>2</sub>S concentration in the two cylinders may exist. Any differences between the gas standards used for calibration and testing would be manifested in the accuracy and bias performance parameters evaluated during this test; other performance parameters such as linearity, precision, and interference effects would not be impacted by differences in the gas standards because of the nature of these calculations. Gas standard dilutions for calibration and testing activities were prepared using the same dynamic dilution system. All APSA-360 measurement data were analyzed and included in this report as output by the APSA-360. Any negative H<sub>2</sub>S concentration values should be considered to indicate measurements of H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations less than those in the zero air used for the APSA-360 factory calibration and/or drift in the APSA-360 response. The APSA-360 was not recalibrated over the duration of this verification test. As discussed in Sections 3.3 and 6.10, the APSA-360 operated at the test site from May 16 through June 3, 2005 (Weeks 4, 5, and 6 of the verification test).

Meteorological conditions collected by a nearby (less than 2 miles) meteorological station are presented in Figure 6-1. The ambient data set collected by the APSA-360 is shown (in the bottom panel), along with the wind direction, wind speed, and ambient temperature data. The average ambient H<sub>2</sub>S concentration measured by the APSA-360 during the verification test was 11.9 ppb, with a range of -1.8 to 522.9 ppb. The meteorological conditions, which were recorded as 1-hour averages, varied widely over the duration of the verification test. The average ambient temperature was 14.3°C, with a range of -4.9 to 29.0°C. The average APSA-360 ambient H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations are shown in Figure 6-2 plotted on polar coordinates as a function of wind direction. When winds were from the south, the APSA-360 was exposed to emissions from the nutrient lagoons. As shown in Figure 6-2, the highest H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations were observed during southwesterly winds, which passed across the primary nutrient lagoon before reaching the instrument trailer. During northerly winds, the APSA-360 sampled barn emissions and measured much lower H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations. Winds were most frequently from the northwest and southeast, as shown by the diamonds in Figure 6-2. Under southerly winds, spikes in the measured H<sub>2</sub>S concentration were often observed at the start of rain, as shown in Figure 6-1.



**Figure 6-1. Meteorological Conditions and APSA-360 Ambient  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  Measurements**



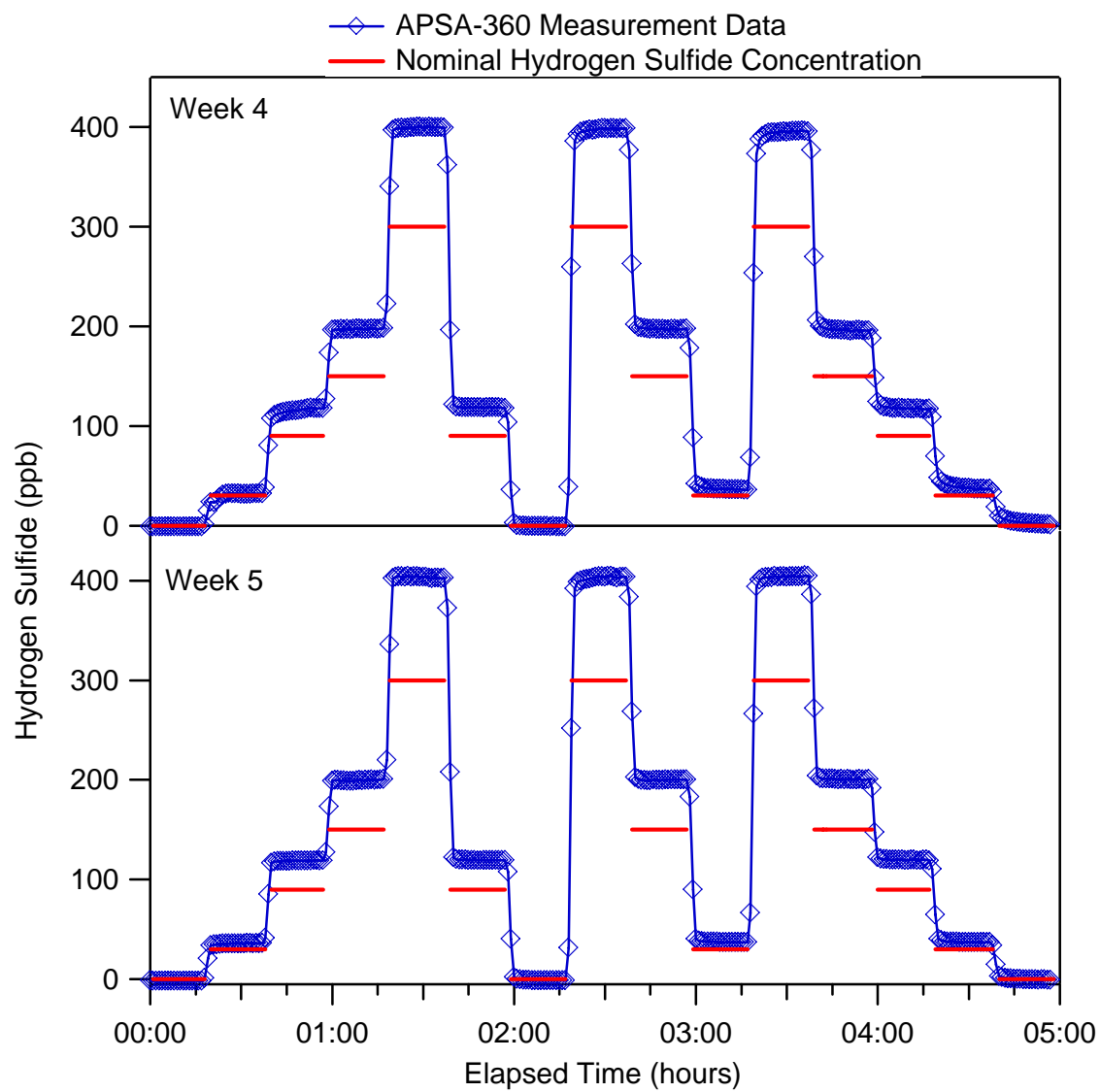


**Figure 6-2. Hourly Averaged APSA-360 H<sub>2</sub>S Measurements Plotted as a Function of Wind Direction**

## 6.1 Accuracy

Accuracy checks were conducted during Week 4 and Week 5 of the verification test. The APSA-360 was challenged with compressed H<sub>2</sub>S gas standards diluted in zero air at several concentrations (30 ppb to 300 ppb H<sub>2</sub>S). The H<sub>2</sub>S gas standards were diluted in zero air and delivered to the Teflon manifold at a flow rate of 3 to 4 Lpm, with a vent to ambient pressure.

Figure 6-3 presents the H<sub>2</sub>S concentrations recorded by the APSA-360 during each accuracy check gas challenge, along with the nominal H<sub>2</sub>S concentration levels supplied to the APSA-360 for Week 4 and Week 5. The averages of the last five minutes (5 data points) of the measurements at each nominal H<sub>2</sub>S concentration and the calculated %R are presented in Table 6-1, along with the average %R for each week. The SD for each average measured concentration is also reported in Table 6-1 for reference purposes. As shown in Table 6-1, the APSA-360 %R values ranged from 106% to 133%, with an average of 128% for the Week 4 check. The APSA-360 %R values for the Week 5 check ranged from 120% to 135%, with an average of 131%. Except for measurements of zero air, all of the APSA-360 concentrations reported for Week 5 were higher than for Week 4.



**Figure 6-3. APSA-360 Accuracy Results**

**Table 6-1. Accuracy Results**

Measurement Number	H <sub>2</sub> S Gas Standard Concentration (ppb)	Week 4			Week 5		
		Average Measured Concentration (ppb)	SD (ppb)	%R	Average Measured Concentration (ppb)	SD (ppb)	%R
1	0	-1.1	0.0	NA	-1.6	0.1	NA
2	30	31.9	0.2	106	35.9	0.0	120
3	90	117.6	0.2	131	119.1	0.1	132
4	150	197.4	0.2	132	200.2	0.3	133
5	300	399.3	0.1	133	402.4	0.2	134
6	90	118.5	0.3	132	119.4	0.1	133
7	0	-0.8	0.1	NA	-1.3	0.1	NA
8	300	398.5	0.2	133	403.3	0.4	134
9	150	197.2	0.2	131	200.3	0.1	134
10	30	36.2	0.1	121	37.0	0.1	123
11	300	395.8	0.3	132	404.2	0.3	135
12	150	196.0	0.2	131	200.4	0.2	134
13	90	117.1	0.4	130	119.5	0.3	133
14	30	36.7	0.2	122	36.9	0.1	123
15	0	1.3	0.2	NA	-0.6	0.1	NA
Average				128	131		
Minimum				106	120		
Maximum				133	135		
Bias ( % $\bar{D}$ )				+28	+31		

NA = not applicable.

## 6.2 Bias

Bias in the APSA-360 response to H<sub>2</sub>S gas standards was assessed for each of the accuracy checks presented in Section 6.1 and calculated separately for each sequence of multilevel H<sub>2</sub>S challenges. The APSA-360 bias observed during the Week 4 and Week 5 accuracy checks were +28% and +31%, respectively. The consistently high bias is indicative of systematic error, which would also affect the APSA-360 accuracy and could be caused by a number of factors, including, but not limited to, differences in H<sub>2</sub>S gas standards used for calibration and testing activities, the gas standard dilution system, and APSA-360 instrumental errors. The APSA-360 bias values are presented in Table 6-1.

## 6.3 Precision

Table 6-2 presents the calculated precision of the APSA-360 determined from the average APSA-360 responses to the triplicate challenges at each H<sub>2</sub>S concentration level during the Week 4 and Week 5 accuracy checks. The precision of the APSA-360 reading varied from 0.4% to 7.5% during the Week 4 accuracy check and from 0.1% to 1.6% during the Week 5 accuracy check. For both weeks, the highest RSD values were observed for the lowest concentration standard (30 ppb). The average precision calculated from each check was 2.2% and 0.5%.

**Table 6-2. Calculated Precision of the APSA-360**

H <sub>2</sub> S Gas Standard Concentration (ppb)	Week 4		Week 5	
	Average Measured Concentration (ppb)	%RSD	Average Measured Concentration (ppb)	%RSD
30	34.9	7.5	36.6	1.6
90	117.8	0.6	119.3	0.2
150	196.9	0.4	200.3	0.1
300	397.9	0.5	403.3	0.2
Average		2.2		0.5

## 6.4 Linearity

Figure 6-4 shows the linearity results for the Week 4 and Week 5 accuracy checks. For each check, a linear regression was calculated from the results presented in Table 6-1 (average APSA-360 response versus the nominal H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard concentration) over the range of 0 to 300 ppb. The 95% CI for the slope and intercept of the regression line were also calculated (shown in the following text within parenthesis). For Week 4, the slope of the regression line was 1.33 ( $\pm 0.02$ ), with an intercept of  $-2.56 (\pm 3.62)$  and  $r^2$  value of 0.9998.

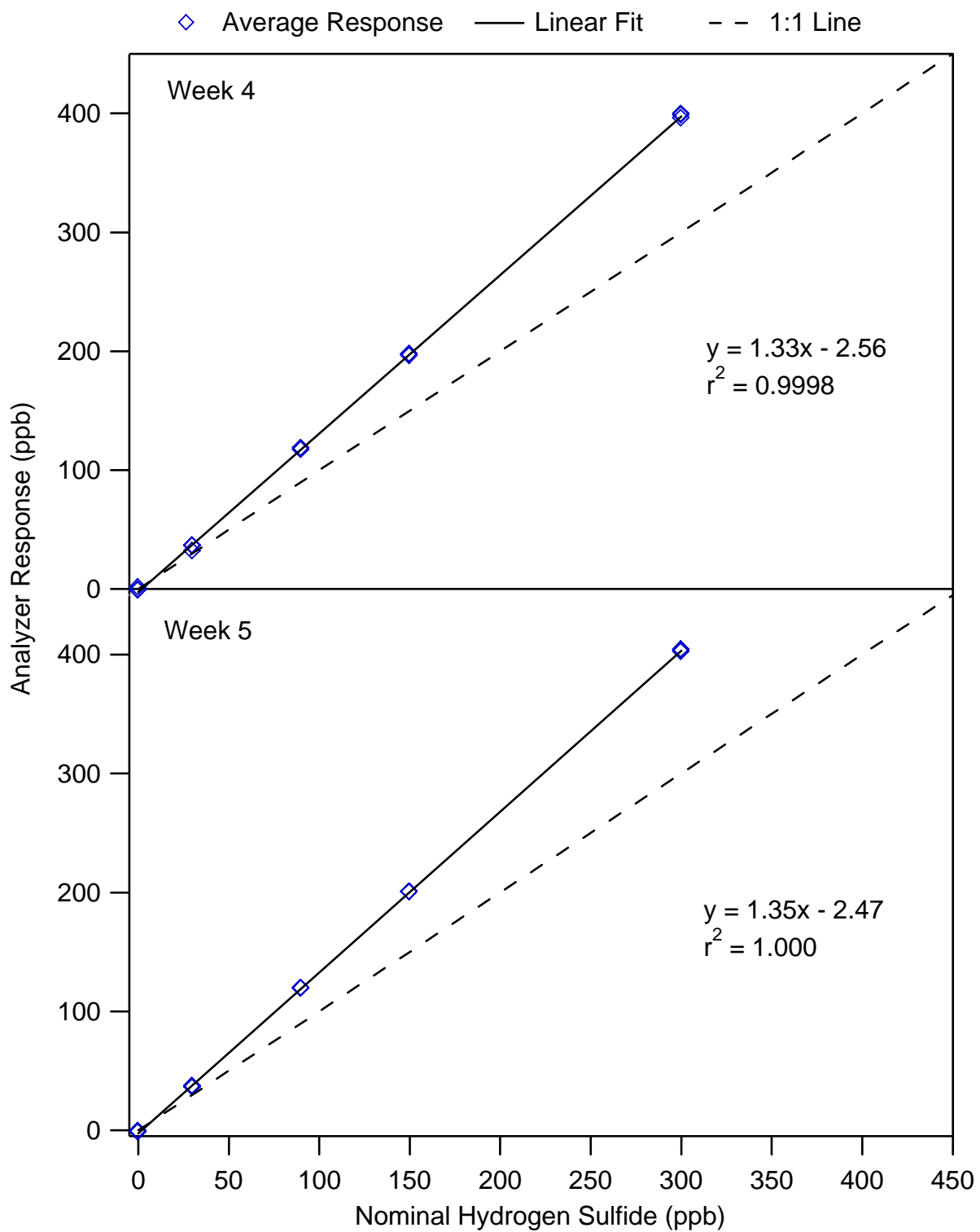


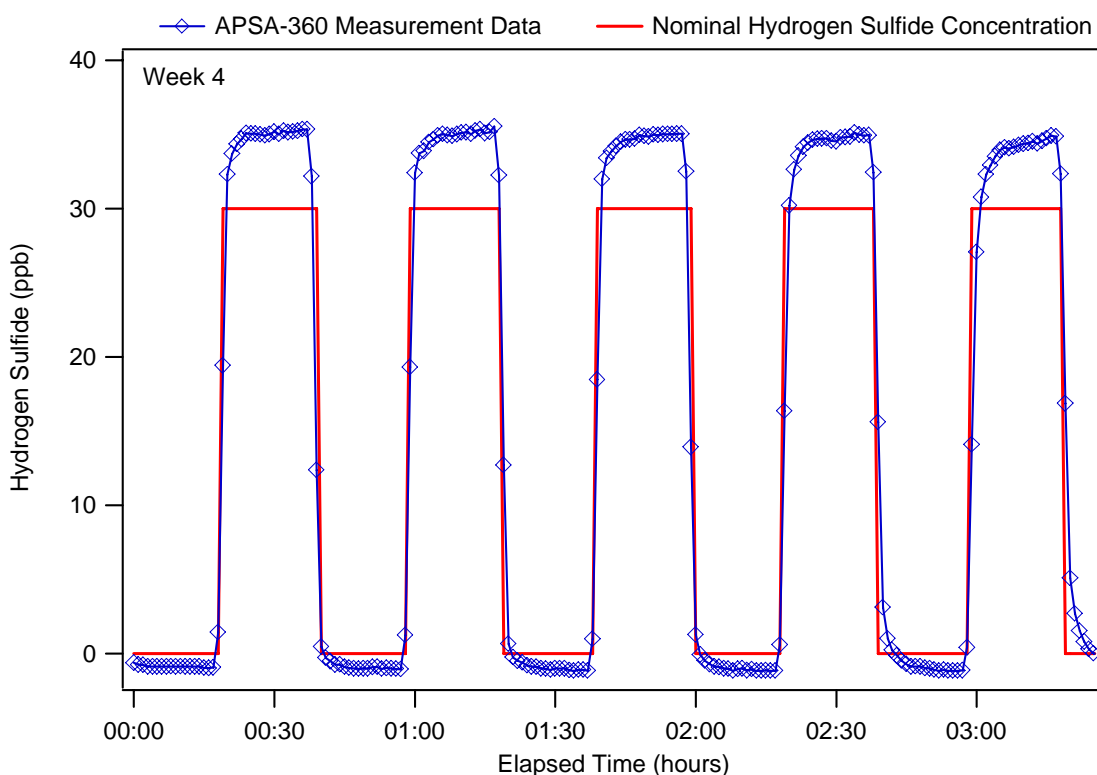
Figure 6-4. APSA-360 Linearity Results

During Week 5, the linear regression showed a slope of  $1.35 (\pm 0.01)$ , an intercept  $-2.47 (\pm 1.76)$ , and an  $r^2$  of 1.000. Over the range of concentrations tested (0 to 300 ppb  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$ ), the APSA-360 demonstrated a high degree of linearity.

## 6.5 Span and Zero Drift

The baseline response of the APSA-360 to zero air and a 30-ppb  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  dilution was determined during Week 4 of the verification test (on the first day of testing for the APSA-360). Figure 6-5 shows the APSA-360 response and nominal  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  concentrations for the Week 4 check. The average responses of the APSA-360 during each replicate delivery of zero air and 30 ppb  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  are shown in Table 6-3. Each average utilized the last five data points for each zero air or  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  standard delivery. The warning ( $\bar{Y} \pm 2SD$ ) and action ( $\bar{Y} \pm 3SD$ ) limits were calculated for zero air and 30 ppb  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  and also are shown in the table.

Span and zero drift checks were performed at least twice each week during the verification test, for a total of seven drift checks. The gas standard dilution system was not flushed with the  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  gas standard before performing two of the span checks. Results from these span checks are included in this report, but were not used to evaluate drift. The results of the span and zero drift checks are shown in Table 6-4. Each average utilized the last five data points for each zero air or  $\text{H}_2\text{S}$  standard delivery. A control chart was prepared from the data shown in Tables 6-3 and 6-4 to demonstrate graphically whether drift occurred over the duration of the verification test. The control chart is shown in Figure 6-6.



**Figure 6-5. APSA-360 Baseline Response Results**

Based on the data presented in Table 6-3 and Figure 6-6, drift in the APSA-360 zero response did not occur during the verification test; zero drift is defined as three consecutive drift check results that fell above or below the warning limit of -1.3 ppb to -0.9 ppb established during the first week of the testing for the APSA-360.

The warning limit established during Week 4 for the APSA-360 response to the 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S span gas was 34.6 to 35.5 ppb. The last three span drift check results fell above the warning limit, indicating a drift in the APSA-360 span response. The final span check response was 1.4 ppb greater than the baseline response.

**Table 6-3. Span and Zero Baseline Response**

Drift Check Date	Zero Response <sup>(a)</sup>				30-ppb Span Response <sup>(a)</sup>			
	Average (ppb)	SD (ppb)	Minimum (ppb)	Maximum (ppb)	Average (ppb)	SD (ppb)	Minimum (ppb)	Maximum (ppb)
Week 4 Tuesday	-0.9	0.0	-1.0	-0.9	35.2	0.1	35.1	35.3
Week 4 Tuesday	-1.0	0.0	-1.1	-1.0	35.3	0.2	35.1	35.5
Week 4 Tuesday	-1.1	0.0	-1.2	-1.1	35.0	0.0	35.0	35.0
Week 4 Tuesday	-1.2	0.0	-1.2	-1.1	35.0	0.1	34.8	35.1
Week 4 Tuesday	-1.1	0.0	-1.2	-1.1	34.7	0.2	34.4	34.9
<b>Baseline Response</b>			<b>-1.1</b>				<b>35.0</b>	
<b>Overall SD</b>		<b>0.1</b>				<b>0.2</b>		
<b>Warning Limit<sup>(a)</sup></b>			<b>-1.3 to -0.9</b>				<b>34.6 to 35.5</b>	
<b>Action Limit</b>			<b>-1.4 to -0.8</b>				<b>34.3 to 35.8</b>	

<sup>(a)</sup> Statistics calculated from the last 5 data points (5 minutes) for each zero air or H<sub>2</sub>S standard challenge (*n*=5).

## 6.6 Response Time

Response time was determined during Week 4 from the amount of time required for the APSA-360 to reach 95% of the change in response during the zero air and 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S span gas replicate deliveries shown in Figure 6-5. Table 6-5 presents a summary of the response time determinations for the APSA-360. The average rise time was 5 minutes, and the average fall time was 4 minutes. APSA-360 readings were recorded as one-minute averages, so the average rise and fall times represent 5 and 4 readings, respectively.

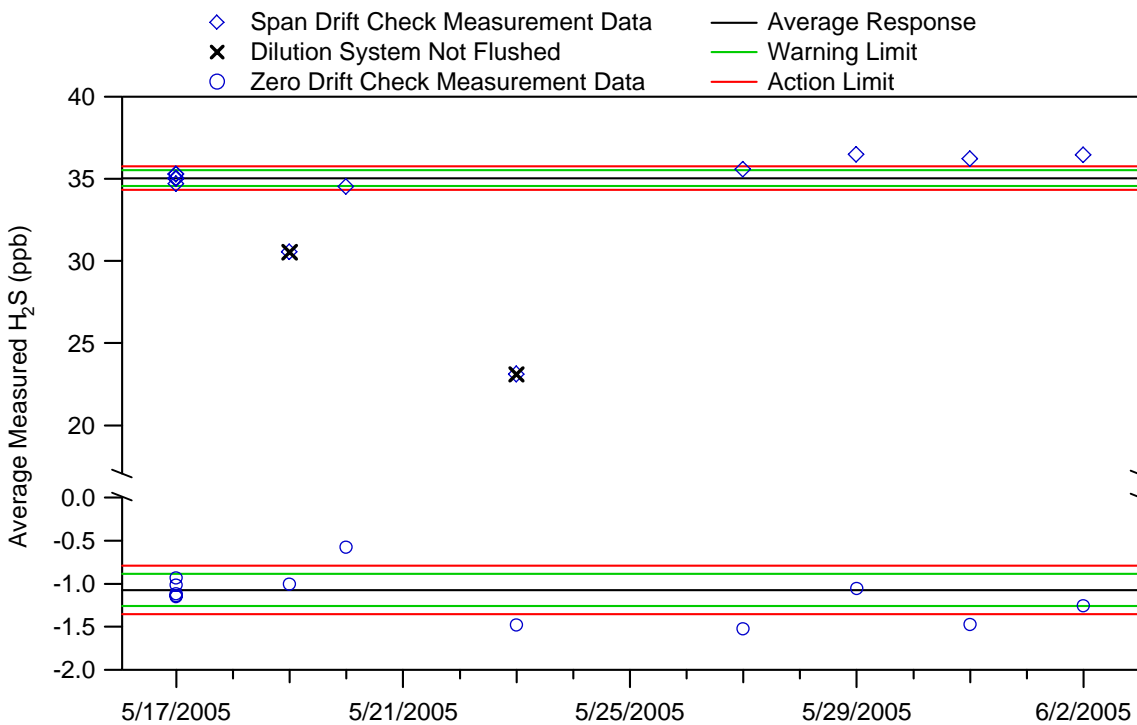
**Table 6-4. Span and Zero Drift Check Results**

<b>Zero Check<sup>(a)</sup></b>							<b>30-ppb Span Check<sup>(a)</sup></b>					
<b>Check Number</b>	<b>Average (ppb)</b>	<b>SD (ppb)</b>	<b>Minimum (ppb)</b>	<b>Maximum (ppb)</b>	<b>Within Warning Limit?</b>	<b>Within Action Limit?</b>	<b>Average (ppb)</b>	<b>SD (ppb)</b>	<b>Minimum (ppb)</b>	<b>Maximum (ppb)</b>	<b>Within Warning Limit?</b>	<b>Within Action Limit?</b>
Week 4 Thursday	-1.0	0.1	-1.1	-0.9	Yes	Yes	30.5 <sup>(b)</sup>	0.4	30.1	31.1	<sup>(b)</sup>	<sup>(b)</sup>
Week 4 Friday	-0.6	0.1	-0.6	-0.5	No	No	34.5	0.2	34.3	34.7	No	Yes
Week 5 Monday	-1.5	0.1	-1.5	-1.4	No	No	23.1 <sup>(b)</sup>	0.5	22.6	23.9	<sup>(b)</sup>	<sup>(b)</sup>
Week 5 Friday	-1.5	0.0	-1.6	-1.5	No	No	35.5	0.1	35.3	35.7	Yes	Yes
Week 6 Sunday	-1.1	0.1	-1.1	-1.0	Yes	Yes	36.4	0.0	36.4	36.5	No	No
Week 6 Tuesday	-1.5	0.1	-1.5	-1.4	No	No	36.2	0.2	36.0	36.4	No	No
Week 6 Thursday	-1.3	0.1	-1.4	-1.2	Yes	Yes	36.4	0.1	36.3	36.6	No	No

<sup>(a)</sup> Statistics calculated from the last 5 data points (5 minutes) for each zero air or H<sub>2</sub>S standard challenge ( $n=5$ ).

<sup>(b)</sup> Gas standard dilution system was not flushed before this span check was performed.





**Figure 6-6. Span and Zero Drift Control Chart**

**Table 6-5. Response Time Determinations**

Replicate	0 ppb to 30 ppb 95% Rise Time (minutes)	30 ppb to 0 ppb 95% Fall Time (minutes)
1	4	(a)
2	4	3
3	4	3
4	5	4
5	6	5
Average	5	4

(a) The sequence began with zero air.

## 6.7 Interference Effects

The effect of potential interferant gases on the response of the APSA-360 was assessed by supplying the APSA-360 with a series of seven gases (listed in Table 6-6) in zero air and a 100-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S standard. The response of the APSA-360 during the introduction of these gases is summarized in Table 6-6.

No interference effect was observed in the APSA-360 response to SO<sub>2</sub>, a blend of C1 to C6 alkanes, and ammonia. The APSA-360 showed an interference effect for carbonyl sulfide in zero air of 31% and in 100 ppb H<sub>2</sub>S of 10%. The interference effect of methyl mercaptan on the APSA-360 was 59% in zero air and 63% in 100 ppb H<sub>2</sub>S. Carbon disulfide and dimethyl sulfide resulted in a 2% to 5% interference effect.

**Table 6-6. Interference Effect Evaluation**

Interferant	Approximate Interferant Concentration (ppb)	Interference Effect (%)	
		Zero Air Matrix	100-ppb H <sub>2</sub> S Matrix
Sulfur dioxide	100	0	0
Carbonyl sulfide	100	31	10
Carbon disulfide	100	2	5
Methyl mercaptan	100	59	63
Dimethyl sulfide	100	3	5
Hydrocarbon blend	500 (total)	0	0
Ammonia	500	0	0

## 6.8 Comparability

As stated previously, the APSA-360 was factory-calibrated with an H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard that was independent of the standard used in the verification testing. The instrumentation for both reference methods was calibrated using the same gas standard used in the verification testing of the APSA-360. To reduce the potential impact on the comparability results due to differences in calibration gases, the APSA-360 data were corrected using the results of the linearity checks (Section 6.4) closest in time to the reference sample collection date. Thus, both reference method and APSA-360 calibrations were referenced to the same H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard for the comparability evaluations, and any differences observed between the APSA-360 and reference method data can be attributed to the analytical approach rather than the calibration source.

It should be noted that the reference method quality control requirements were not fully satisfied, and, therefore, the accuracy of the reference method results could not be verified. In addition, the

---

swine finishing farm ambient air, which can contain high levels of ammonia and other small, polar molecules, was very challenging analytically and may have caused measurement artifacts resulting from contact of H<sub>2</sub>S and other gases with non-passivated surfaces in the air sampling system. The comparability results presented here should be considered cautiously in light of the reference method quality control results and the challenges associated with the complex ambient air matrix.

### 6.8.1 Time-Integrated Comparability

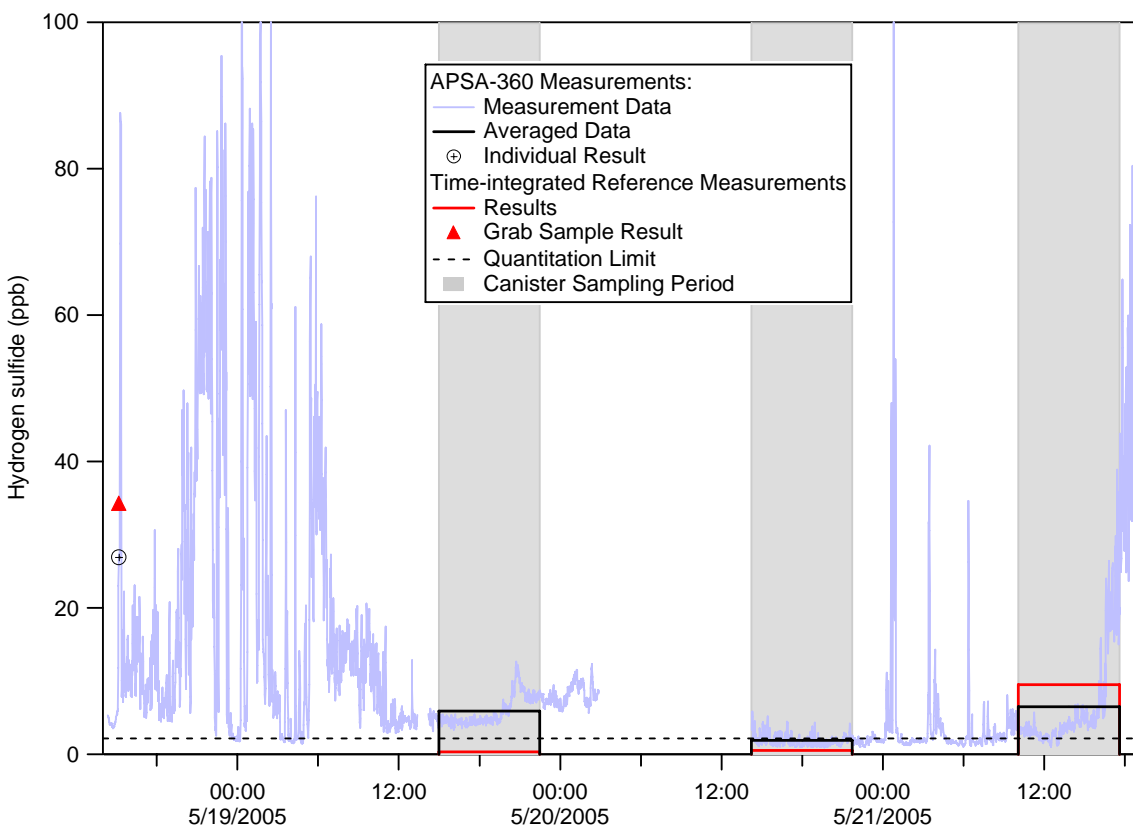
Four of the time-integrated reference method measurements were collected while the APSA-360 was operating at the test site. Two of the time-integrated reference results were below the quantitation limit (2.2 ppb). The maximum preanalytical holding time stated in the test/QA plan<sup>(1)</sup> was 24 hours; however, holding times exceeded 24 hours for three of the four time-integrated reference measurements. The long holding times may have resulted in degradation of H<sub>2</sub>S in the canisters. The two quantitative measurements were compared with the time-averaged APSA-360 responses over the same periods (approximately 7.5 hours,  $n=456$  data points) to determine the time-integrated comparability. One of these measurements was a grab sample ( $n=3$  data points), collected by allowing the canister to fill rapidly without a flow controller on the inlet. The other three samples were collected as described in Section 3.3.5.1. The reference method measurements were compared with the APSA-360 data by determining whether the measurements were significantly different at the 95% confidence level; a linear regression analysis could not be performed.

Figure 6-7 shows the time-integrated reference H<sub>2</sub>S measurements (red traces), the APSA-360 raw H<sub>2</sub>S data (blue trace), and the APSA-360 averages for the reference measurement sample periods (black trace). The grab sample is shown by individual symbols (red triangle for reference measurement, black circle for APSA-360 average). Both of the time-integrated reference measurements were statistically significantly different from the APSA-360 averages. The APSA-360 and time-integrated reference method data are presented in Appendix B.

### 6.8.2 In Situ Comparability

The results of 41 *in situ* reference method results were compared with 15-minute averages ( $n=15$ ) calculated from the APSA-360 data that were centered in time on the *in situ* reference measurement times. The 95% CI was calculated for each APSA-360 average and compared with the *in situ* reference measurement to determine whether the results were significantly different at the 95% confidence level. Figure 6-8 shows selected *in situ* reference measurements (red and green diamonds), the APSA-360 H<sub>2</sub>S data, and the APSA-360 15-minute averages. Any upper and lower limits reported for the *in situ* reference method are also shown in Figure 6-8. As demonstrated by the green diamonds in Figure 6-8, 32% (13 of 41) of the quantitative *in situ* reference values were not significantly different from the corresponding APSA-360 15-minute averages. The APSA-360 and *in situ* reference method data are presented in Appendix C.

A linear regression analysis of the APSA-360 averages during the reference sampling periods versus the H<sub>2</sub>S concentration determined by the *in situ* reference method is presented as a scatter plot in Figure 6-9 to illustrate the correlation between the reference results and the APSA-360 data. The scatter plot includes reference method results that were within (green diamonds) and



**Figure 6-7. Comparison of Time-Integrated Reference Measurements with Averages from the APSA-360**

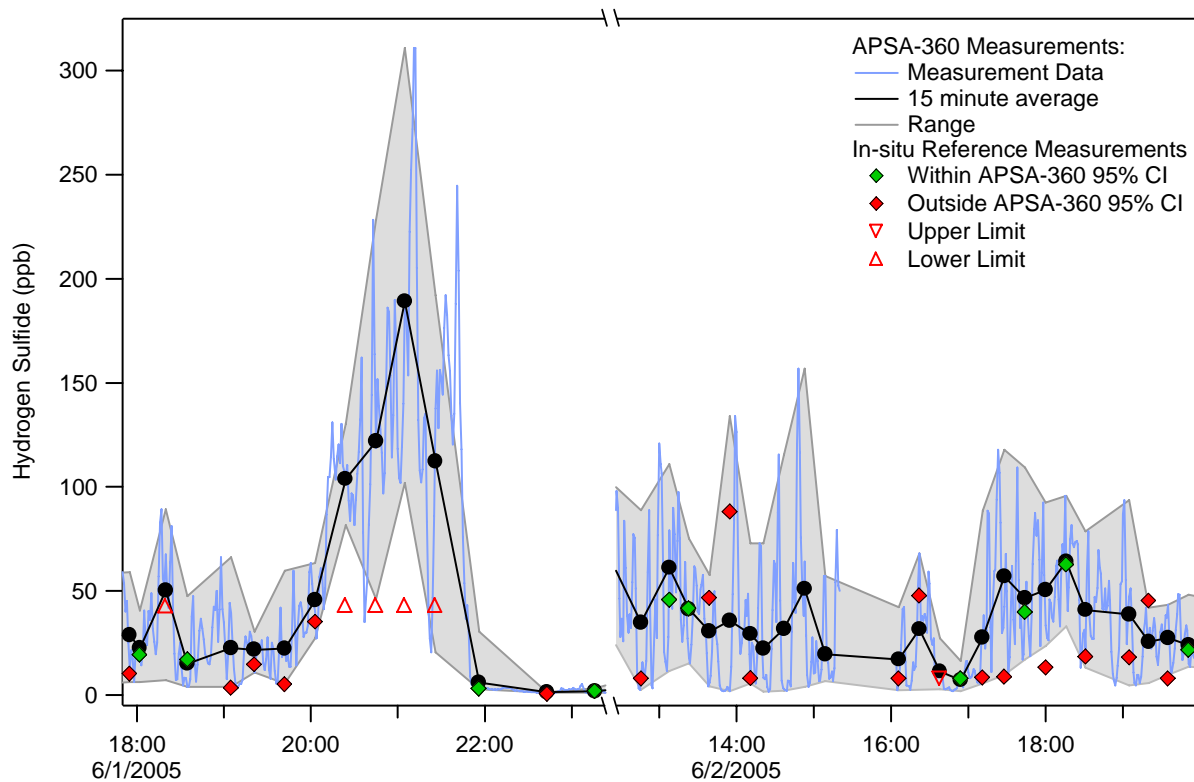
outside (red diamonds) the APSA-360 95% CI. The slope of the regression line including all available quantitative results was  $0.15 (\pm 0.5)$ , with an intercept of  $26 (\pm 22)$  and an  $r^2$  value of 0.0325. When only the 13 results that were not significantly different at the 95% CI were included in the linear regression analysis, the slope was  $0.99 (\pm 0.34)$ , with an intercept of  $1.8 (\pm 13)$ , and an  $r^2$  value of 0.9374.

## 6.9 Data Completeness

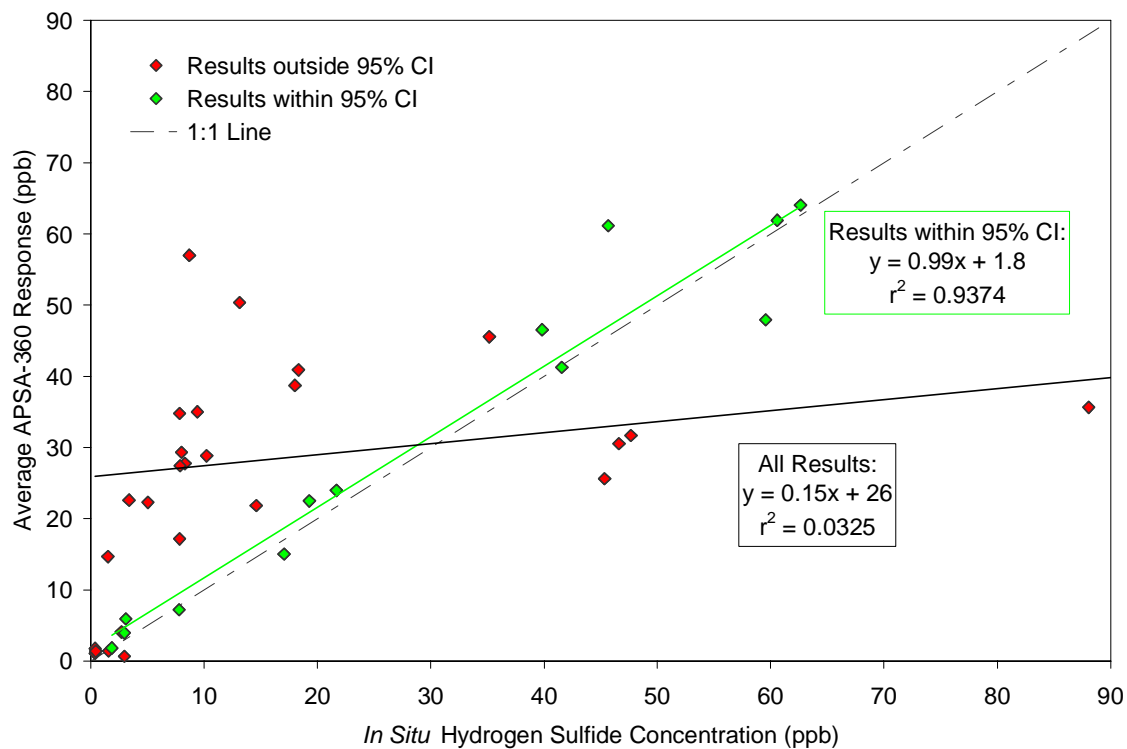
The APSA-360 operated for only 45% of the available time during the verification test (April 25 through June 3, 2005). During the time the APSA-360 was operating at the test site (May 16 through June 3, 2005), the data set was 98% complete. The data logger battery lost power due to a faulty power cord, resulting in a 2% loss of data.

## 6.10 Operational Factors

The APSA-360 was first installed at the test site (on April 22) by the vendor representative, and the installation was completed in less than one day. However, the APSA-360 was not supplied with the 50-pin connector needed to collect data using the data logger provided by USDA. A



**Figure 6-8. Comparison of Selected *In Situ* Reference Measurements with APSA-360 Averages and Measurement Data**



**Figure 6-9. Scatter Plot of APSA-360 Results versus *In Situ* Reference Measurements**

---

connector was fabricated at the field site by USDA staff and used with a resistor to connect the APSA-360 output to the data logger. It was then apparent that the data output range was not set up as indicated on the Horiba Test Report for the APSA-360. The Horiba Test Report indicated that the analog data output range was set to -4 to 20 milliamps, but the analog data output range was actually set to 0 to 1 volt. After consulting the maintenance manual for the APSA-360, the internal jumpers were set to the correct position for the output signal range of -4 to 20 milliamps. A program for the data logger was written by USDA staff. The data logger sampled the APSA-360 data every 10 seconds and recorded one-minute averages.

Trial operations with the APSA-360 revealed that its performance did not satisfy the vendor representative's experience-based expectations for response time and sensitivity. The vendor representative, with assistance from Battelle and USDA staff, examined the APSA-360 in an attempt to determine the cause of the poor performance, but no problems were found. Since the APSA-360 was not working properly and could not be repaired at the field site, it was shipped to Horiba in California on April 25 for inspection and repair, as needed. Although no specific problem was found, the APSA-360 was disassembled and reassembled, which appeared to improve the APSA-360 performance. The APSA-360 was then shipped back to the test site (on May 16), where it was installed by USDA staff. The installation was completed in less than one day, and testing on the APSA-360 began the following day (May 17). Verification testing on the APSA-360 was conducted over the next approximately three weeks. Since the verification test had begun three weeks before the APSA-360 was operational at the test site, some reference method measurements could not be compared with the APSA-360 results. All other planned testing activities were performed, but condensed into a shorter time period than was planned. No maintenance was required for the APSA-360, which, once it was operational at the field site, was easy to operate. The APSA-360 could be operated by a user with minimal experience, once it was working properly.

---

## Chapter 7

### Performance Summary

The performance of the APSA-360 was evaluated for its accuracy, bias, precision, linearity, span and zero drift, response time, interference effects, and comparability by evaluating the APSA-360 response while sampling H<sub>2</sub>S and other gas standards at known concentrations and ambient air. The APSA-360 was factory-calibrated prior to this verification test and verified with a 400-ppb dilution from an H<sub>2</sub>S gas standard (100 ppm) H<sub>2</sub>S that was independent of the gas standard (5.12 ppm H<sub>2</sub>S) used for performing the verification test. All gas standard dilutions were prepared using the same dynamic dilution system. The results of this evaluation are described below.

The accuracy of the APSA-360 was assessed over the range of 30 ppb to 300 ppb in terms of %R, which ranged from 106% to 133%, with an average of 128% for the Week 4 check. The APSA-360 %R values for the Week 5 check ranged from 120% to 135%, with an average of 131%.

The APSA-360 bias observed during the Week 4 and Week 5 accuracy checks (30 ppb to 300 ppb) was +28% and +31%, respectively. The consistently high bias is indicative of systematic error, which would also affect the APSA-360 accuracy and could be caused by a variety of sources, including, but not limited to, differences in H<sub>2</sub>S gas standards used for calibration and testing activities, the gas standard dilution system, and APSA-360 instrumental errors.

The precision of the APSA-360 reading varied from 0.4% to 7.5% during the Week 4 accuracy check and from 0.1% to 1.6% during the Week 5 accuracy check. The average precision calculated from each check was 2.2% and 0.5% for Weeks 4 and 5, respectively.

Linearity was evaluated in terms of slope, intercept, and  $r^2$  over the range from 0 ppb to 300 ppb H<sub>2</sub>S. For Week 4, the slope of the regression line was 1.33 ( $\pm 0.02$ ), with an intercept of -2.56 ( $\pm 3.62$ ) and  $r^2$  value of 0.9998. During Week 5, the linear regression showed a slope of 1.35 ( $\pm 0.01$ ), an intercept -2.47 ( $\pm 1.76$ ), and an  $r^2$  of 1.000.

Drift was defined to have occurred if three consecutive drift check results fell outside of the warning limit ( $\pm 2$  standard deviations) calculated for zero (-1.3 ppb to -0.9 ppb) and a 30-ppb span gas (34.6 to 35.5 ppb). Seven drift checks were conducted over a period of two weeks. Drift was not observed in the APSA-360 response to zero air. The last three span drift checks fell above the warning limit, indicating that drift in the APSA-360 response to the 30-ppb H<sub>2</sub>S span gas did occur. The final span drift check value was 1.4 ppb greater than the baseline response.

The average 95% rise time was 5 minutes, and the average 95% fall time was 4 minutes.

---

No interference effect was observed in the APSA-360 response to SO<sub>2</sub>, a blend of C1 to C6 alkanes, and ammonia. The APSA-360 showed an interference effect for carbonyl sulfide in zero air of 31% and in 100 ppb H<sub>2</sub>S of 10%. Carbon disulfide and dimethyl sulfide resulted in an interference effect of 2% to 5%. The interference effect for methyl mercaptan was 59% in zero air and 63% in 100 ppb H<sub>2</sub>S.

Comparability was evaluated in terms of the slope, intercept, and  $r^2$  of a linear regression analysis of the APSA-360 averages versus the reference measurements and was calculated separately for the time-integrated and *in situ* reference methods. It should be noted that the reference method quality control requirements, such as for preanalytical holding time and analysis of quality control and performance evaluation standards, were not fully satisfied. Therefore, the accuracy of the reference method results could not be verified. In addition, the swine finishing farm ambient air, which can contain high levels of ammonia and other small, polar molecules, was very challenging analytically and may have caused measurement artifacts resulting from contact of H<sub>2</sub>S and other gases with non-passivated surfaces in the air sampling system. The comparability results presented here should be considered cautiously in light of the reference method quality control results and the challenges associated with the complex ambient air matrix. Only two quantitative time-integrated reference results were available for the period during which the APSA-360 was operational at the field site. Therefore, time-integrated comparability could not be evaluated by linear regression analysis. Both of the two time-integrated reference measurements were significantly different from the corresponding APSA-360 averages at the 95% confidence level. The regression line slope for 41 quantitative *in situ* reference measurements was 0.15 ( $\pm 0.5$ ), with an intercept of 26 ( $\pm 22$ ) and an  $r^2$  value of 0.0325. Thirteen of the 41 quantitative *in situ* reference values (32%) were not significantly different from the corresponding APSA-360 15-minute averages. The regression analysis of those 13 data points yielded a slope of 0.99 ( $\pm 0.34$ ), an intercept of 1.8 ( $\pm 13$ ), and an  $r^2$  value of 0.9374.

The APSA-360 was not functioning properly when first installed at the test site. The APSA-360 was sent to Horiba in California for repair and returned to the test site, after which it was successfully installed by USDA staff. A user with minimal experience and the instruction manual could install and operate the APSA-360. No maintenance was required after the APSA-360 was repaired by Horiba. Daily checks of the APSA-360 were simple and quick.

The APSA-360 operated during 45% of the verification test because it was not running properly for the entire test (April 25 to June 3). Once the APSA-360 was successfully installed at the test site (May 16 to June 3), 98% of the data was collected and retrieved.



---

## **Chapter 8**

### **References**

1. *Test/QA Plan for Verification of Ambient Hydrogen Sulfide Analyzers at a Swine Finishing Farm*, Battelle, Columbus, Ohio, April 2006.
2. ASTM International. *Standard Test Method for Determination of Sulfur Compounds in Natural Gas and Gaseous Fuels by Gas Chromatography and Chemiluminescence*. Designation: D5504-01, 2001.
3. *Quality Management Plan (QMP) for the ETV Advanced Monitoring Systems Center*, Version 5.0, U.S. EPA Environmental Technology Verification Program, Battelle, Columbus, Ohio, March 2004.

**Appendix A**  
**APSA-360 Checklist**



## Horiba APSA-360 H<sub>2</sub>S

ETV Verification of Ambient Hydrogen Sulfide Analyzers  
at a Swine Feeding Farm



### Observe Analyzer Front Panel

- |  |                        |
|--|------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check for alarms                        | Alarm = _____          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Check for unreasonable readings         | Value = _____          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Download data                           |                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send data to Battelle (at least weekly) | Most recent Date _____ |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Send data to Horiba (at least weekly)   | Most recent Date _____ |

**Action:** If any of issues above fails, note in logbook and contact:

**Operator Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Date:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Comments:** \_\_\_\_\_

---

---

---

---

Note: Please remember to sign and date this form in non-erasable ink.

**Appendix B**  
**APSA-360 and Time-Integrated Comparability Data**

Time-Integrated Reference Method							APSA-360						Reference Result Within 95% CI?
Start Date and Time	Stop Date and Time	Result (ppb)	Distri- bution	ln Result	Holding time (hr)	Final QCS	Average Result (ppb)	SD (ppb)	ln Average	ln SD	<i>n</i>	95% CI	
5/18/05 15:11	5/18/05 15:14	34.3	normal	NA	5	Pass	26.90	0.41	<sup>(b)</sup>	<sup>(b)</sup>	3	25.87 - 27.95 ppb	No
5/19/05 15:00	5/19/05 22:30	<2.2	log- normal	NA	46	<sup>(a)</sup>	5.90	2.02	1.72	0.31	451	5.88 - 5.93	NA
5/20/05 14:13	5/20/05 21:43	<2.2	log- normal	NA	25	<sup>(a)</sup>	1.94	0.82	0.58	0.38	449	1.90 - 1.97	NA
5/21/05 10:05	5/21/05 17:35	9.5	log- normal	2.25	44	Fail	6.51	6.92	1.53	0.75	456	1.46 - 1.60	No

<sup>(a)</sup> No final QCS data provided.

<sup>(b)</sup> APSA-360 data were normally-distributed, so the natural logarithm was not calculated.

**Appendix C**  
**APSA-360 and *In Situ* Comparability Data**

<i>In Situ</i> Reference Method			APSA-360 (ppb)				Reference Result Within 95% CI?
Sample Midpoint	Result (ppb)	Final QCS	Result at Sample Midpoint	Average Result	SD	95% CI	
5/30/05 14:04	1.51	Pass	52.80	14.66	19.65	3.03 - 26.29	No
5/30/05 14:20	<1.48		3334	3.04	1.45	2.23 - 3.84	NA
5/30/05 14:36	<1.48		4.96	3.58	2.07	2.43 - 4.73	NA
5/30/05 15:26	2.69		5.67	4.09	2.41	2.76 - 5.43	No
5/30/05 15:49	<1.78		4.64	3.17	1.67	2.25 - 4.10	NA
5/30/05 19:08	<1.48		1.00	1.28	0.39	1.07 - 1.50	NA
5/30/05 19:24	<1.48		4.51	1.91	1.40	1.14 - 2.69	NA
5/30/05 21:42	12.79		182.85	153.88	68.46	115.97 - 191.80	No
5/30/05 21:56	168.62		2.22	7.18	10.53	1.35 - 13.01	No
5/30/05 22:12	2.95		6.19	3.93	1.91	2.87 - 4.99	Yes
5/31/05 11:20	0.38	(a)	1.90	1.07	0.36	0.88 - 1.27	No
5/31/05 11:48	0.37		1.58	1.78	0.32	1.60 - 1.96	No
5/31/05 22:17	2.96		0.58	0.66	0.07	0.62 - 0.70	No
6/1/05 17:55	10.21	(a)	12.37	28.83	15.62	20.18 - 37.48	No
6/1/05 18:02	19.28		18.11	22.48	9.92	16.99 - 27.98	Yes
6/1/05 18:20	>42.49		67.58	50.25	24.77	36.54 - 63.97	NA
6/1/05 18:35	17.05		3.99	15.04	12.92	7.89 - 22.20	Yes
6/1/05 19:05	3.37		39.39	22.60	18.93	12.12 - 33.09	No
6/1/05 19:21	14.59		10.93	21.82	5.80	18.61 - 25.04	No
6/1/05 19:42	5.04		22.14	22.28	14.33	14.34 - 30.21	No
6/1/05 20:03	35.18		40.32	45.53	12.54	38.59 - 52.48	No
6/1/05 20:24	>42.85		104.68	103.88	13.24	96.55 - 111.21	NA
6/1/05 20:45	>42.85		118.88	121.84	45.06	96.88 - 146.79	NA
6/1/05 21:05	>42.85		191.12	189.15	70.95	149.86 - 228.44	NA
6/1/05 21:26	>42.85		137.79	112.37	56.46	81.10 - 143.64	NA
6/1/05 21:56	3.09		3.46	5.90	6.93	2.06 - 9.74	Yes
6/1/05 22:43	0.44		1.33	1.36	0.10	1.30 - 1.41	No
6/1/05 23:16	1.85		1.96	1.83	0.70	1.44 - 2.22	Yes
6/2/05 11:53	59.55	Pass	6.40	47.93	34.71	28.71 - 67.15	Yes
6/2/05 12:08	9.40		8.94	35.01	27.82	19.60 - 50.42	No
6/2/05 12:25	60.56		64.32	61.93	25.18	47.98 - 75.88	Yes
6/2/05 12:46	7.83		8.56	34.79	30.41	17.95 - 51.64	No
6/2/05 13:08	45.65		79.23	61.14	33.03	42.85 - 79.44	Yes
6/2/05 13:23	41.57		17.69	41.25	18.28	31.13 - 51.37	Yes
6/2/05 13:39	46.60		6.09	30.55	18.06	20.55 - 40.55	No
6/2/05 13:55	88.07		1.92	35.64	47.03	9.60 - 61.69	No
6/2/05 14:11	7.99		7.65	29.34	18.08	19.32 - 39.35	No
6/2/05 16:06	7.83		6.76	17.14	14.59	9.06 - 25.22	No
6/2/05 16:22	47.66		68.02	31.66	19.06	21.11 - 42.22	No

<i>In Situ</i> Reference Method			APSA-360 (ppb)				Reference Result Within 95% CI?
Sample Midpoint	Result (ppb)	Final QCS	Result at Sample Midpoint	Average Result	SD	95% CI	
6/2/05 16:38	<7.69	Pass	11.95	11.42	8.66	6.63 - 16.22	NA
6/2/05 16:54	7.80		9.57	7.20	4.82	4.53 - 9.87	Yes
6/2/05 17:11	8.32		29.06	27.72	26.71	12.93 - 42.52	No
6/2/05 17:28	8.70		42.56	57.00	31.94	39.31 - 74.69	No
6/2/05 17:44	39.82		42.69	46.54	25.24	32.57 - 60.52	Yes
6/2/05 18:00	13.12		33.55	50.38	21.57	38.43 - 62.32	No
6/2/05 18:16	62.63		61.20	64.07	16.44	54.97 - 73.18	Yes
6/2/05 18:31	18.32		21.87	40.90	21.23	29.14 - 52.65	No
6/2/05 19:05	18.01		47.18	38.73	28.35	23.03 - 54.43	No
6/2/05 19:20	45.34		27.84	25.64	10.58	19.78 - 31.49	No
6/2/05 19:35	7.87		43.35	27.42	10.15	21.79 - 33.04	No
6/2/05 19:51	21.67		15.14	23.98	8.85	19.08 - 28.88	Yes
6/3/05 4:33	1.56	(a)	1.28	1.39	0.30	1.22 - 1.56	No

<sup>(a)</sup> QCS not analyzed at end of sampling on this date because the liquid nitrogen supply ran out.